

JOURNEY INTO SPACE

By Radhakrishna Rao
Special to The Star

IF ALL goes to plan, a Soviet space shuttle provisionally named Cosmolyot will make its maiden flight next year. Successful tests already have been made of the new giant rocket to be used in shuttle launches and the Soviets are racing for a Cosmolyot III-off early in 1988.

They are aiming for success before the United States resumes its own space shuttle programme, grounded since the January 1986 Challenger disaster in which seven astronauts died. If the Soviets succeed, it will give them a major psychological boost over a United States plunged into gloom and introspection since the Challenger inferno.

It's 30 years since the Soviet Union stunned the West — the United States in particular — with the launch into orbit of Sputnik I, the first man-made earth satellite. At that time the United States believed it was ahead in aerotechnology and that the first satellite would be launched from the free world.

There was further despondency for the United States in April 1981 when the Soviets put the first man into space — 27-year-old air force pilot Yuri Gagarin, the first hero of a new era.

Although the United States pioneered manned flights to the moon, with Neil Armstrong taking his epoch-making "giant step for mankind" onto the moon's surface in July 1969, the Soviet Union has held a lead in other aspects of space technology. Analysts say that while the American programme has been marked by sudden spectacular leaps, the Soviet programme has been characterized by a lower-key, "step by step" approach.

And while the American programme in recent years has been squeezed by a dollar-conscious Congress, the Soviet budget has been increasing by more than 115 per cent a year. It has doubled since 1980 and Moscow now spends more on space technology and exploration than it does on its entire non-space military apparatus.

Analysts say that the Soviets' space logistics base and infrastructure now outstrips that of the United States. According to the authoritative US journal Aviation Week and Space Technology, "When the various elements of the Soviet space programme are examined as a whole, they illustrate the depth of national commitment, budget support and industrial base the Soviets apply to their space efforts."

In May this year, the Soviets successfully tested the giant Energia rocket that will carry Cosmolyot into orbit. The 2,000-tonne Energia is the biggest rocket in the world. It has eight engines fuelled by liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen and is reported to be capable of carrying a payload five times greater than the American shuttle launcher.

With their shuttle programme grounded, American plans for a new orbiting space station by the early 1990s also are reported in difficulties because of a conflict in sharing resources with Japan and European nations involved in the project. Independent analysts say the project now is likely to fall behind its original timetable.

The Soviets undoubtedly are ahead in space lab technology, following the launch last year of the Mir station, successor to the Salyut projects begun in the early 1970s. Mir — Russian for "peace" — has been home since last February to cosmonauts Yuri

Soviets bid for indisputed lead in space technology

Romanenko and Alexander Laveikin, who will break the human endurance record if and when they complete 238 consecutive days in orbit.

Although less than 13 metres in length Mir has five docking ports. An astrophysics module was docked last April and more specialist laboratories will be added during the next five years, with the aim of making Mir the first permanently manned space station.

In addition to already holding the endurance record, set during 1984, Soviet cosmonauts have clocked up more than twice as many person years in space as American astronauts — 12 years against five. The Soviets also hold the record for number of launches. Of 103 worldwide in 1986, for example, 91 were Soviet. They carried a total of 114 payloads, some of them non-military observation and data-gathering craft, others undoubtedly spy satellites.

Following its successful robot mission to Venus, the Soviet Union is planning a similar exploration of Mars in 1992, during which a robot probe will land on the "Red

Planet" and analyze surface samples.

American space scientists view the Venus and Mars missions as progressive steps toward a manned mission to the latter. One senior official with the US Jet Propulsion Laboratory, said that "the Soviets know what a programme is. We still think in terms of single missions and single launches."

On another front, the Soviet Union is adroitly seeking to exploit the vacuum created in the global launcher market following the Challenger disaster and recent failures of the European Space Agency's Ariane rocket. It has established an organization under the name Glavcosmos and is offering use of its giant Proton rockets for commercial launches.

According to Glavcosmos, cost of launching a standard communications satellite is in the region of \$30 million. The first booking has been made by India, which is to use the Proton later this year to launch a one-tonne earth observation satellite. Australia also is reported to have shown interest in Proton launches.

The Soviets also have been quick to realize the propaganda value of associating Third World countries with space exploration, and in recent years cosmonauts from Cuba, Mongolia, Vietnam, Eastern bloc countries and India have joined Soviet crews. The latest Third World guest flyer was Syrian air force pilot Mohammed Ahmed Faras, who in July joined Romanenko and Laveikin aboard the Mir space station. In contrast, the United States has taken only one Third World pilot on a space mission, Saudi Arabia's Prince Sultan Salman Al-Saud.

The Soviets also have offered to help set up a special space centre

in India to help Third World countries acquire the ABC of space technology. The proposal was made by Soviet Leader Mr. Gorbachev during his visit to India last year.

According to independent analysts, the Soviets now are making rapid progress in the development of electronics, computers and miniaturization essential to sophisticated space programmes. This has long been the Soviet Achilles' heel. Seven years ago Soviet technology in these fields was a full decade behind American achievements. The gap today is said to be three or four years.

A study by the US Defense Department entitled "Soviet Military Power 1987" expresses concern that recent and anticipated Soviet developments could threaten United States' space-based strategic defence initiative — a so-called Star Wars programme. The study notes that the Soviets may have as many as a dozen launch vehicle combinations, giving them a launch flexibility of considerable magnitude.

"These vehicles will give the Soviets greater versatility to conduct and augment military operations in space," says the study. According to the US Office of Technological Assessment, the American space programme now has become so vulnerable that it is in danger of being overtaken only by the Soviet Union, but also by Japan and European rivals.

Radhakrishna Rao is a journalist with the Indian Space Research Organization in Bangalore and reports on international space developments for a wide range of media.

In another work, Church, Social Liberation, Hope, David Kiser who spent 20 years in jail for involvement in attempts to bring liberation to African Society, said he was delighted by "the discovery of the magnificent art of John Muafangejo."

"It is a great breakthrough for such art could develop out of the oppressed nation of Namibia," shows the vitality of Namibia's people, their quest for freedom and their full and diverse lifestyles," Kiser said the artwork revealed the Namibian reality — "how the people are, and how they shall one day gain freedom for themselves."

Natalie Warren-Green is a London-based writer who specializes in issues related to the developing world.

By Natalie Warren-Green
Special to The Star

LONDON — A day before riots marred London's Notting Hill Carnival on 1 September 1987, Namibian artist John Muafangejo visited the scene and said he was overjoyed by the multiracial harmony in the streets. "There is still a struggle to be found in the streets of London," conceded Rev. John Wheeler, a friend of the artist. But, he said, that tension between the races represented "only a tiny fraction of the deep and horrendous struggles being faced by the people of Namibia."

The carnival unrest, particularly the stabbing of a policewoman, led to calls for banning the celebrations and defiance of the carnival by those who argued (correctly) that the rioters represented only a small fraction of an otherwise peaceful mass of participants from many races.

The controversy somehow reflected the difficult task of helping people understand a situation far more complex and critical in the South African-controlled Namibia (Southwest Africa). How does one go about it? John Muafangejo offers a refreshing solution: His art encapsulates Namibia's problems more effectively than a fair amount of political rhetoric would.

Uno Cuts by the artist recently went on show in London and would remain on public display in an exhibition through early October at the Royal Festival Hall. Each picture is a statement on the

An artist with a mission

lifestyle of the Namibian people, their thoughts, joys and struggles.

"My people," said Muafangejo. In an interview, "encourage my art." The relationship has flowered through a lifetime of living in the community. Muafangejo was born in 1943, one of 17 children. He spent his early childhood in a traditional Ovambo Kraal in Northern Namibia, on the Angolan border.

He was educated at St. Mary's School in Odibo, part of a large Anglican mission centre, where his talent was recognized and encouraged; subsequently he attended art school in Durban. Since the age of 20, Muafangejo said, he has been compulsively engaged in print-making. His concerns are reflected in frank and very refreshing pictures, ranging in themes from the political struggles to religious and personal aspects of life. English phrases, incorporated in the structure of his work help to express his theme.

Muafangejo's concept of multi-racial integration is conveyed through a black and white colour scheme. One picture, "Hope and Optimism in spite of Present Difficulties," features people painted half white and half black who are shaking hands. In Muafangejo's vocabulary, it's an expression of great hope for racial integration.

"Black and White Girls Shaking Hands — They are shaking hands because they are longing to know

each other further illustrates hope for future recognition and solidarity, a theme common to many of his prints. The artist conveys the quest for freedom and peace in Namibia in a number of ways. "New Archbishop Desmond Tutu Enthroned at St George's Cathedral Cape Town on 7 September 1988" depicts the ceremony and includes a short prayer — a strong indication of the faith Namibians have in religion.

The idea behind a scene of St. Michael Church in Windhoek, the Namibian capital, said Muafangejo, is of an angel killing Satan to gain religious justice. Prayers are important in our lifestyle."

Pointing to a picture which reads, "I Wish You Well, Go With God, Go In Peace, I hope You Will Come Back to Us One Day," he said, "This is my memory of my departure to Durban. 'When I left my home,' said Muafangejo, "people prayed for me at the airport."

Hope for freedom can be accounted for, to a great extent, by the fact that religion is important to the Namibian way of life. Pictures of Christ's birth, and of Mary, of marriage and against immorality, depict the beliefs of a moral and religious society. It is their faith which keeps Namibians alive, said Muafangejo.

The peasant lifestyle of hunting and corn collecting, set on natural backgrounds, is cleverly con-

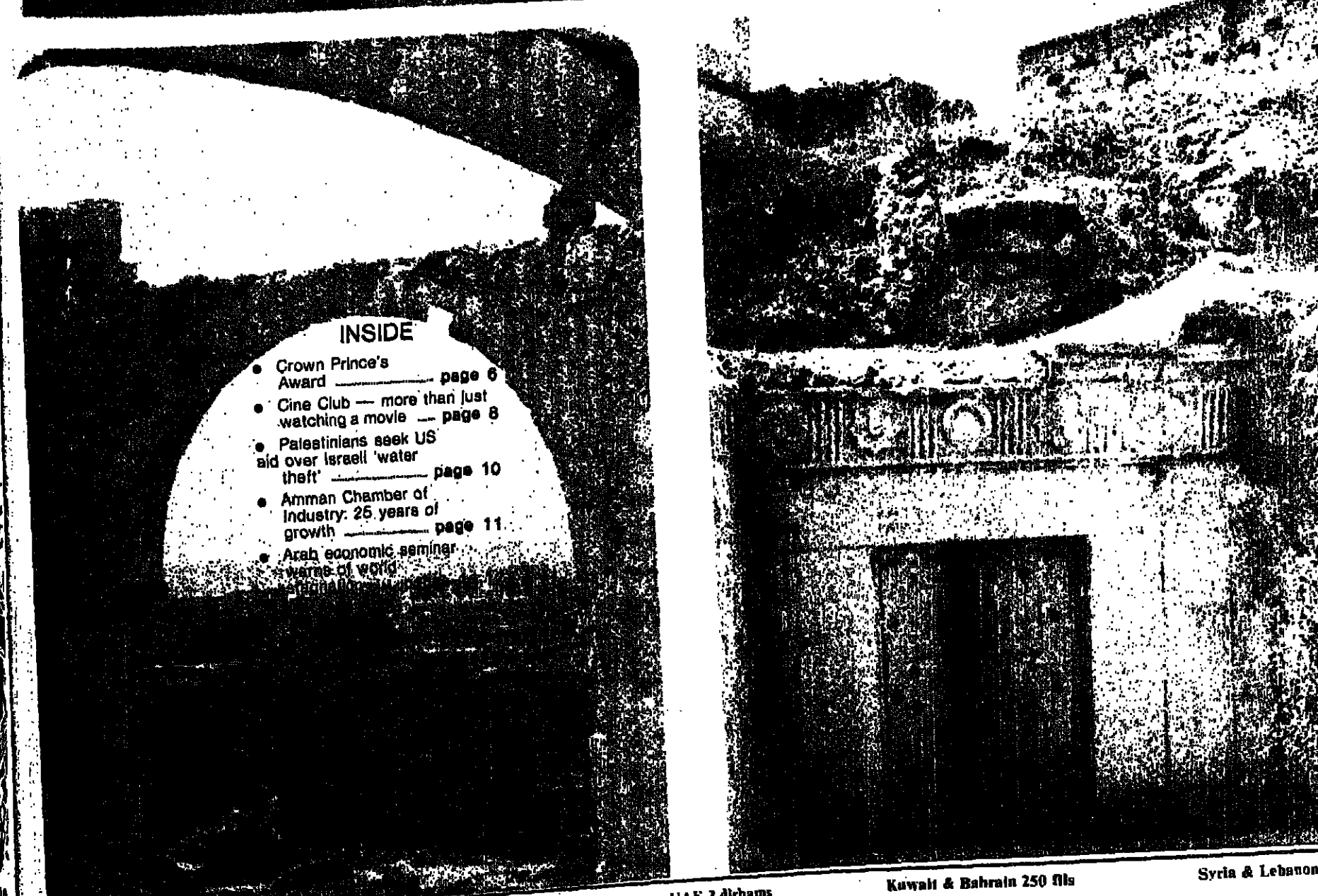
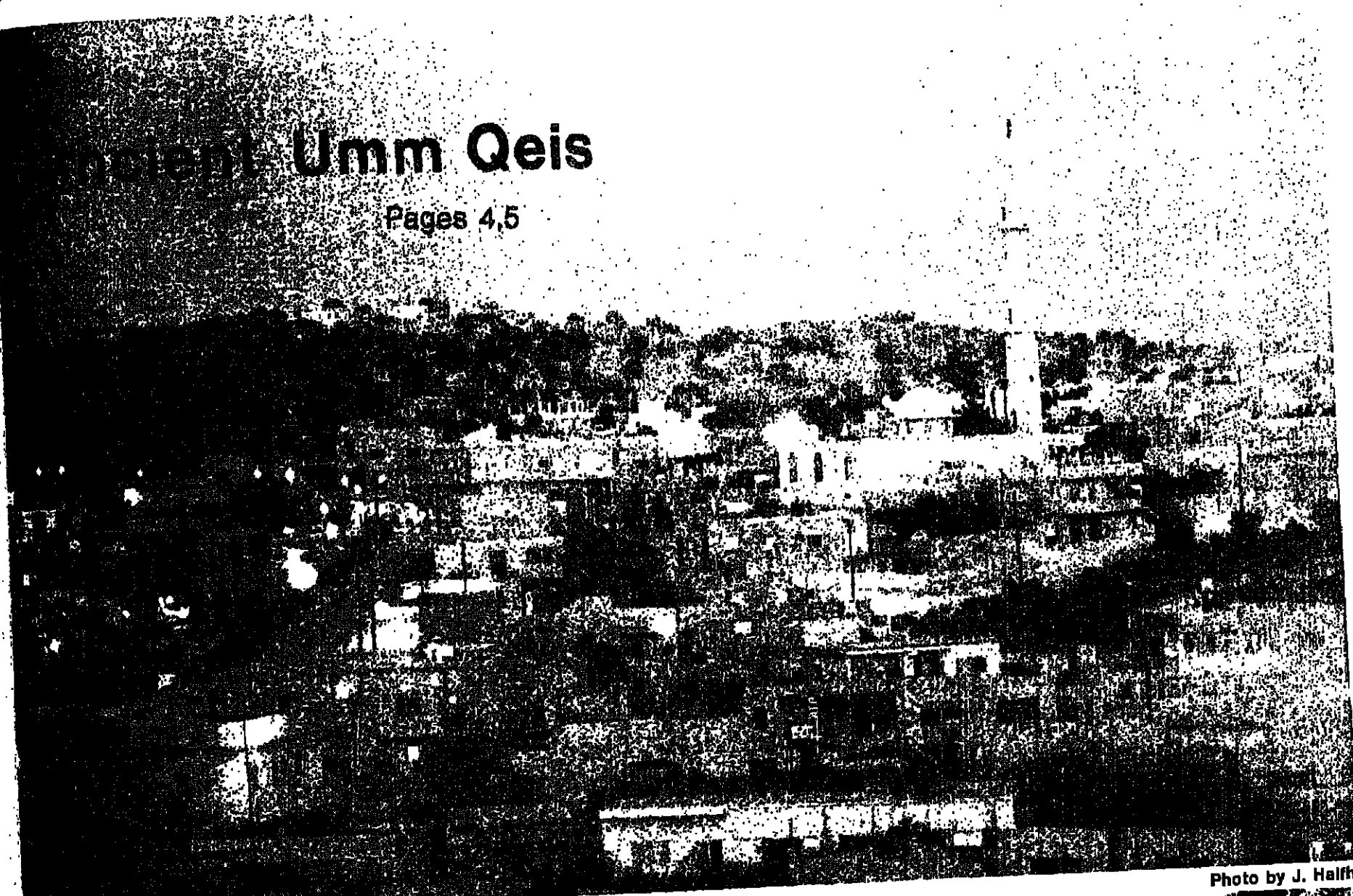
trasted to the picture "Rich Woman," which simply depicts a strong flock of sheep and "Rich Man," which shows a strong herd of cattle. "These animals are the ones which the rich people own in Namibia," explained Muafangejo.

Muafangejo laughed as he explained his picture of a lion being dragged from a tree by an elephant. "This shows my thoughts on the fact that there cannot be two bosses. Here the elephant is supposed to be boss." Can the elephant ever hope to be the king of the jungle, or indeed, will the struggle of the people in Namibia lead to a more democratic lifestyle?

A suggestion to the answer lies



A line cut by John Muafangejo depicts wildlife in Namibia



Umm Qeis

Photo by J. Halfhid

Price: Jordan 150 Nis, Saudi Arabia & Qatar 3 riyals, UAE 3 dirhams, Kuwait & Bahrain 250 Nis, Syria & Lebanon 3 pounds

All out for CP children

By Hana Shahin
Special to The Star

**I worked so hard, and still I'm glad,
As the ability to walk was the reward.
And now to school I will proceed,
If you give me the help I need.
For don't you think it is my right
To play and learn and read and write.**

WITH THESE words, from the mouth of an innocent child, the Cerebral Palsy Foundation (CPF) will approach the public in its fund raising campaign for donations to be used in future projects.

Since declaring the first Thursday of October each year as a national day for the cerebral palsy, the (CPF) has launched four nation-wide charity campaigns which enabled it to build treatment centres in Amman, Zerga, Irbid and Aqaba. These centres provide assistance, guidance, physiotherapy, and surgery treatment to more than 3000 handicapped children all through the country.

The donations of this year, however, will be used in further enhancing occupational and speech therapy "in the hope of establishing a "conductive education" programme to fully rehabilitate handicapped children, and enable them to attend normal schools" according to Mrs J.M. Majali, the vice president of the foundation.

She added that the foundation will this year focus on education for being one of the four most important aspects of the rehabilitation process. Yet she pointed out that the foundation still lacks for physiotherapist, and occupational and speech therapists who could give the appropriate treatment in the other three vital aspects: assessment, counselling, and education.

One thousand university and college students are lending a hand of help in the campaign. In white shirts that have the emblem of the (CPF), and with red or blue donation boxes in their hands, they are today walking through the streets of Amman, Zerga, Jerash, Irbid, Aqaba, and Ghor Al-Safi.

They appeal for help for children suffering from cerebral palsy so that to enable those children acquire their rights on equal bases with the healthy ones in accordance with the UN's declaration: "Every child has the right to deve-

lop physically, and mentally in a healthy manner. Every child has the right to special care if handicapped."

As Lina Kattan, head of CPF Social Committee put it, all members of the foundation call on the public as well as official departments to participate in building a national CP centre that will include all the necessary facilities to rehabilitate CP children.

The campaign is also aimed at arousing public awareness of the importance of prevention and early treatment of CP cases. Previous campaigns have succeeded in meeting this goal as many mothers, who used to be embarrassed for having to take their CP children to treatment centres, are proud of providing their children with the proper treatment.

In a press conference held on Wednesday in the (CPF) offices in Amman, the president of the foundation, Fakiri Belbeisi, outlined the objectives, and the achievements of the (CPF). He said that the society has albeit financially difficult managed to extend help to 3000 CP children during its 16 years of existence, 10 of those children were able to attend normal schools, while 85 of them were admitted in special care schools.

He expressed hope that the centre, through co-ordination with other similar societies, will be able to treat the remaining 7000 registered CP children.

The honorary president of the



'Help us go to school'

(CPF), Leila Sharaf, said that the achievements of the society have "exceeded expectations, but fell short of hope." She also stressed

the psychological importance involving society in such campaigns in arousing social awareness of the problems.

Summit preparations in full swing

Special to The Star

PREPARATIONS FOR the Arab extraordinary summit conference, due to convene in Amman on 8 November, are going ahead at different levels. Invitations to attend the summit will be sent to Arab leaders by His Majesty King Hussein and will be delivered by special envoys.

An informed source in Amman said the headline for the summit is the situation in the Gulf and recent developments in the Iran-Iraq war, but a larger agenda is expected to be tackled as Arab solidarity and pan-Arab national security will be dealt with as topics of paramount importance.

"The summit will not be preceded by a preparatory meeting of Arab foreign ministers to work out an agenda because the conference is an extraordinary one. Most problems will be discussed through separate meetings among Arab leaders. Besides, the Gulf conflict cannot be separated from the larger question of pan-Arab security," The source added.

He said Jordan will maintain its efforts to forge a common Arab stand.

The extraordinary summit, meanwhile, continues to draw favourable Arab reaction. In a press interview published Sunday in Ku-

wait, Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al-Mehdi said "a discussion of the present Arab situation is a special emphasis on the Gulf conflict and the need to put an end to the Iran-Iraq war."

Kuwait also commended Jordan's decision to restore diplomatic relations, with Libya as a step that could contribute to the success of the Summit.

Kuwaiti minister of State for cabinet affairs Rashid Abdul Aziz Rashid said following a telephone meeting Sunday that the summit is expected to contribute to the restoration of Arab solidarity and to enhancing Arab cooperation in the restoration of diplomatic relations between Amman and Tripoli, and to a positive step towards joint action.

Furthermore Jordanian officials and concerned departments are taking the necessary measures to ensure comfortable accommodation of the Arab guests and facilitate their mission. Journalists assigned to cover the conference's deliberations will be media and communications facilities at their disposal.

As for the conference itself, the opening session will be held at the Royal Cultural Centre while subsequent meetings are to take place at the Plaza Hotel.

King tours Gulf

His Majesty King Hussein has left Amman for a tour of the Gulf states for talks with leaders on the current situation in the Arab world, with special emphasis on development in the Gulf and efforts to put an end to the Iran-Iraq war on the basis of Security Council Resolution 598. The King will be accompanied by the leaders of Oman, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Bahrain. He also touched on the Arab extraordinary Summit Conference, due to convene in Amman on 8 November.

The third leg of His Majesty's tour was a visit to Saudi Arabia where he held talks with King Fahd on ways of consolidating Arab solidarity prior to the extraordinary summit.

King urges resolving economic problems

His Majesty King Hussein has urged for providing the country's human potentials with job opportunities so that they can participate in building the national economy and in efforts aimed at overcoming the current recession in the region.

The King, who was delivering an address Saturday at a ceremony marking the silver jubilee of Amman Chamber of Industry, vowed continued support for the industrial sector to enable it to supply Jordanians with their needs and export surplus to foreign markets.

As part of the celebration, His Majesty opened an exhibition of local industrial products at the chamber's premises.

Prince Mohammad visits army formation

His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the Regent, and personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday visited a formation of the 12th Royal Mechanized Division and watched troops in training.

Royal Air Force planes took part in an exercise in which live munition was used.

Prince Mohammad voiced satisfaction with the combat efficiency of the soldiers.

Prince Hassan receives Arab Foreign Ministers in the US

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday met with Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Maguid in New York. The Prince, in New York for the UN General Assembly session, also received at his residence the Foreign Ministers of Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait. He discussed with them the developments in the Arab region and means of ironing out inter-Arab differences in order to pave the way for Arab solidarity.

Prince Hassan also met with the Pakistani Prime Minister and His Foreign Minister for talks on the situation in the Gulf and bilateral relations.

Events of the week

By Moh'd Attiyh Mahmoud



Their Majesties King Hussein and King Fahd upon King Hussein's departure from Saudi Arabia

Lawzi calls for greater European involvement

Senate Speaker Ahmad Al-Lawzi told a visiting British Defence delegation Monday that the Palestinian problem lies at the heart of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

During his meeting with the guests from the British Royal Defence College, Lawzi noted that His Majesty King Hussein has been exerting strenuous efforts to bring about peace in the troubled Middle East region which is being beset by the Iran-Iraq war and Israel's occupation of South Lebanon.

He stressed the importance of greater European involvement in efforts to resolve Middle East problems.

Indian parliamentary delegation in Amman

Speaker of the Lower House of the Indian Parliament Balam Jhaker Wednesday arrived in Amman in a short working visit to the Kingdom. Mr Jhaker was welcomed upon arrival by Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament and chairman of the Arab Parliamentary Union Akif Al Fayed.

Mr Jhaker, who was at the head of an Indian Parliamentary delegation, stated during a meeting with Mr Al Fayed that the two countries are currently maintaining full economic and commercial co-operation in general, and parliamentary co-ordination in particular.

After ending his visit to Jordan, Mr Jhaker will be heading to Iraq for talks with Iraqi officials on Indian-Iraqi relations and other issues.

Relief aid to the Sudan

A new Jordanian medical team left Amman Monday for the Sudan as part of the relief aid offered to Jordan to assist the drought-stricken population in the brother country.

It was the 13th medical team dispatched by Jordan to the Sudan in about two years. Jordan's help also covers irrigation, agriculture and electrical power.

Winter time by end of October

A Cabinet statement released on Sunday said that winter time is to start in Jordan by the end of October.

According to the statement, the hands of the clock will be turned backward by an hour as of midnight on 30 October.

A bridge linking Jordan, Iraq and Egypt

The establishment of an Arab marine bridge linking Iraq, Jordan and Egypt was among the major issues tackled by Minister of Transport Ahmed Dahkhan and his Egyptian counterpart in Cairo last Saturday.

The two ministers have also discussed the improvement of Aqaba-Nuwaibi inland route and other transport-related issues.

"For those of us in Congress who are expected to look past the news accounts and obtain an insight into the thinking and objectives of the players in the Middle East, it is extremely helpful to have access to *American-Arab Affairs*. It is a well-written journal with interviews that cut through the rhetoric."

The Hon. Howard C. Nielson
U.S. Representative (UT)

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H.R.H. Crown Prince El Hassan Bin Talal
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

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The Hon. Charles Z. Wick
Director, United States Information Agency



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The Arab World and the World Archaeology

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DIVING COURSE OFFERED

The Royal Diving Centre, Aqaba is to run a diving course, beginning Friday, Oct. 9 until Saturday, Oct. 17. For Aqaba residents, the course will be conducted each afternoon between 3:00 & 5:30 p.m. The timing is to allow working people the opportunity to learn diving. Attendance for all the sessions will be required. Successful students will be issued a Jordanian Diving Certificate equivalent to World Underwater Federation, One Star. This certificate will allow the student to use Royal Diving Centre facilities if they wish to continue. Diving can be both a relaxing and an adventurous sport, and gives the participants a chance to see the great beauty that exists beneath the surface of the sea. The cost per student is JD 40.

Direct enquiries to the Royal Diving Centre, Aqaba. Phone: 317035

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ESHIDIYA PHOSPHATE MINE PROJECT

This notice for specific goods follows the general procurement notice for this project which appeared in Development Business Number 220, dated April 16, 1987.

The Jordan Phosphate Mines Company has applied to the World Bank for a loan in various currencies equivalent to U.S. \$31 million, and intends to apply part of the proceeds of the loan to eligible payments under the contracts for which this invitation to tender is issued.

Tenders are invited separately for the equipment below:

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Package 1 | 6 Hydraulic backhoes 5.5 CU.M. |
| Package 2 | 22 Rear dump trucks 50 U.S. Ton |
| Package 3 | 4 Bulldozers 350 HP. |
| | 4 F.E. loaders 5 CU.M. |
| | 2 Motor graders 200 HP |
| Package 4 | 8 DTH blasthole drills |
| | 8 Mobile compressors |

Bidders must quote for the supply of one or more complete packages as bids for part of a package will not be accepted. Tender documents are available to eligible bidders at the address below and will be available from Sept. 30, 1987 on payment of JD 150 for each of packages 1 and 2, JD 125 for package 3, JD 50 for package 4, which will be non-refundable. Bids in sealed envelopes shall be submitted to the address below not later than 2:00 p.m. local on Nov. 15, 1987.

The Managing Director
Jordan Phosphate Mines Company
P.O. Box 30, Amman, Jordan
Tel: 660141-47
Telex: 21223 FOSFAT JO.

Bringing back the smile to the muses of Umm Qeis

By Hana Shahin
Special to The Star

IN TERMS of population, development, and social traditions, Umm Qeis, 30 kilometres north-west of Irbid, is just like any other villages of Irbid Governorate. Yet, in terms of history, 'Gadara Mukeis' is unique.

Situated at the top of a hill overlooking a breathtaking view of the Lake Tiberias, the Yarmouk River, and the Syrian Golan Heights, the 'inexpugnable' Umm Qeis, attracted the attention of many civilizations and dynasties. This interest, however, was not a cause for prosperity all the time; in many instances, it brought destruction to the 'Fortress of Ieromyes' or rather 'the Fortress of Yarmouk' as Dr Fawzi Zayadine, of the Department of Antiquities explains.

Excavations at Umm Qeis have proved that it has been inhabited since the Iron Age (1200 B.C. — 600 B.C.). Its recorded history however, dates back to the 3rd century. It describes the wars between the Ptolemies of Egypt, and the Seleucides of Syria. Like many cities of Transjordan, Gadara flourished under the Seleucid rule who were later defeated in 165 B.C.

During the Hellenistic period (332 B.C. — 63 B.C.), Gadara Mukeis was captured and destroyed by John Hyrcanus in 100 B.C. after a siege of six months. When Pompey, the Roman General, overran the East in 63 B.C., Gadara entered a new and prosperous era. It became one of the 'Ten Cities,' known as the League of the Decapolis.

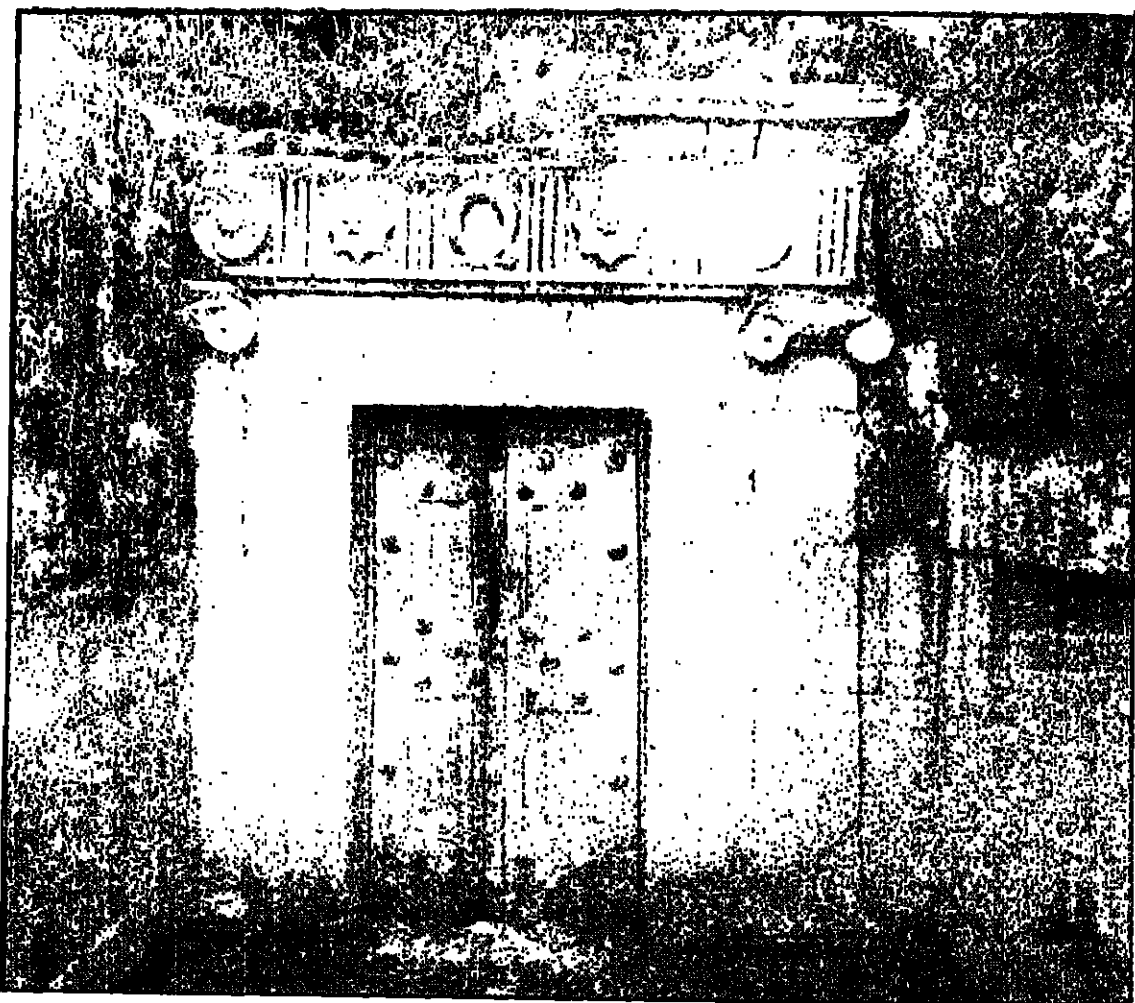
Each of these capitals was an independent city-state dominating many small villages where wealth and prosperity were evident. The colonnaded streets, temples, theatres and fountains that were erected in the city reflected this prosperity. A Greek inscription on Mosaic praises the generosity of its inhabitants and wished them more prosperity. 'Health to Heracles, the founder of the paths.'

Due to its important location for commerce and defence, the Nabatean King Aretas III (87 B.C. — 62 B.C.), the Roman General Marcus Antonius and King Herod of Judea, fought over Gadara until it recovered its independence in 4 B.C., at a time where Christianity was still alien to its inhabitants.

Umm Qeis, the ancient city of Gadara, allows biblical scholars to relive the exorcism mentioned in the Gospels of St. Matthew (8:28), St. Mark and St. Luke. It is said that Jesus, along with some of his disciples, landed in the country of the Gadarenes, where he exorcized the unclean spirits of a madman and sent them into a herd of pigs feeding nearby, 'who ran violently down a steep place into the sea.' Presently, there are at least 3 sites of Roman family mausoleums on the hilltop at Umm Qeis, where one can still feel the spirits lurking in the ruined tombs.

In the second century A.D. Gadara reached its golden age. Its people took pride in belonging to it. 'I am from Gadara found of muses' reads an inscription on the tomb of one of the Gadarenes. Other writings vividly describe the wonderful time people spent at the scenic city, enjoying the cultural and artistic activities that used to hum at ancient Umm Qeis. The Roman geographer, Strabo wrote the following 'Here (Umm Qeis), the pleasure-loving Romans, after having enjoyed the restorative effects of the hot springs of Amatha (Al-Hammeh), retired for refreshment, enjoying the cooler heights of the city, and solacing their leisure with the plays performed in the theatres.'

It is not difficult to imagine the splendour of the past city of Umm



Entrance to the mausoleum

Qeis knowing that Philodemus the epigrammatist, Meleager the satirist and Theodorus the rhetorician, were some of its prominent literatures throughout the ages, Dr Fawzi Zayadine remarks. The standard of education and culture of Gadara evidently matched those of the greatest cities of the East at that time, like Alexandria and Antioch, he said.

During the Byzantine period (324 A.D. — 633 A.D.) Gadara was part of 'Palestina Secunda', with a resident bishop. Slowly, it degenerated to a 'small village' in the post Umayyad period due to the shifting of the strategic trade route to the East.

Dr Zayadine said that the significance of Umm Qeis is not limited to its cultural heritage, as it is also a symbol of an oriental city with strategic position that attracted many western cultures.



"To you I say, passer by, as you are now, I was, as I am, you will be. Enjoy the life as mortal."

A walk through the ruins

This inscription which reflects the philosophical outlook on life that the people of ancient Gadara seem to have cherished was engraved in Greek on a lintel at one of the three mausoleums unearthed by the department of antiquities in 1969.

A visitor to Umm Qeis is likely to come across many such inscriptions, and signs of the greatness of the city while walking through its paths of which some are paved with mosaics.

Entering the city through the eastern gate, the visitor will come by the northern theatre which, although badly ruined by earthquakes and vandalism could still please the imaginative eye with a scene of the 5000 persons who occupied its seats.



A house from the Ottoman period

Photo by John Halfhide

In front of the theatre forum, from which a street runs westward, ash, columns, shops and wheels are still visible. So, the remains of a basilica of lime-stone and dark basalt reflect an impression of the past.

Going on southward, the visitor enters the western theatre, smaller than the northern one, with a proximate capacity 3000 but is in a better condition, lying at the lowest tier of the storey the eye meets a white marble statue standing in contrast to the black basalt of the theatre.

It is the goddess of Athena, goddess of prosperity and in Phoenician mythology, the many aphrodite goddesses who inspired the poems of the ancient populace of Umm Qeis. In her left hand, the goddess is holding a cornucopia, while in her right hand, she has been mutilated. The heads of the goddess appear, the symbols of the past.

Looking further down for the southern theatre, one can see the serene view of Lake Tiberias and the Golan Heights. The natives of Umm Qeis have done justice to that view, less they had written those poems and plays about Umm Qeis, the philosophy of life.

Dr Zayadine, a veteran of Umm Qeis, said that further excavations by the German Protestant Institute for Archaeology, in coordination with the Department of Antiquities, will certainly be a fruitful and complete city, like Jerash. But many wonder, could it become the pearl of Jordan?

Dr Thomas Weber, director of the German Protestant Institute for Archaeology, currently excavating at Umm Qeis, said, 'Umm Qeis has its own charm. It is a complete village that represents traditional buildings of the Ottoman period stands out in a line of ruins. Many of these houses were built from basalt stones, 'taken' from the ancient Graeco Roman city of Gadara. Among the other houses, some can visit the Kama Maqum (Turkish Governor) residence and enjoy the architecture and scenery of the surrounding valleys.

In 1974, the Government of Jordan approved the proposal of the Department of Antiquities to acquire the lands and houses that lay in the vicinity of the ruins at the old village of Umm Qeis. This was for the purpose of renovating and preserving the site in order to make it one of the many important tourist attractions in Jordan.

Effective measures to implement the project were taken in 1976. The government allocated a sum of JD 300,000 to it and gave Umm Qeis residents the choice of either getting cash compensation for their lands and houses, or moving to one of the houses built by the Housing Corporation.

Presently the cleared Ottoman settlement is totally evacuated except for some of the families who, like their predecessors continue to live there without the 'modern' facilities of water, and electricity.



The modern village of Umm Qeis



Ancient coin uncovered in Umm Qeis

Continued from page 4

Ottoman - Jordanian Period

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Melkawi House

In 1986, the Jordanian architect, Ammar Khammash, and Dr Thomas Weber of the German Protestant Institute for Archaeology, submitted a proposal to the Department of Antiquities. The proposal called for the preservation of the Ottoman settlement, instead of excavating further the

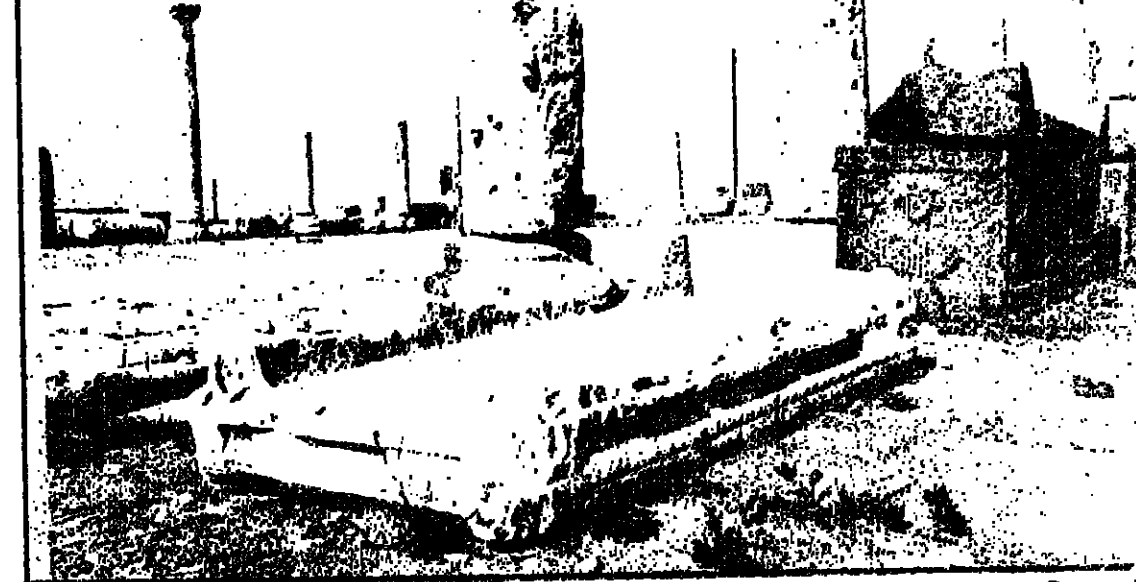
"Here (Umm Qeis), the pleasure-loving Romans, after having enjoyed the restorative effects of the hot springs of Amatha (Al-Hammeh), retired for refreshment, enjoying the cooler heights of the city, and solacing their leisure with the plays performed in the theatre."

Roman ruins at ancient Gadara.

Ammar Khammash has often expressed to his friends the need to preserve archaeological sites other than Roman theatres which can be seen in many countries of the world. He firmly believes in the preservation of the Jordanian modern archaeology. Dr Weber, in total agreement with Khammash, added: "We owe it to history. Umm Qeis could be the 'Ottoman Pompeii', where the rural life can well still be preserved. If neglected, the next generation will lose a vital historical material."

Therefore, the Melkawi, 'Estates' house, built on the Roman walls of the acropolis, was chosen to be renovated, to become an example of traditional architecture and a centre for the archaeological mission at that site.

Work on the Melkawi house commenced in August 1986, under the supervision of Khammash, Dr Weber and Omar Irshaidat, antiquities supervisor at the Department of Antiquities. The project was financed by the West German Foreign Ministry and the German Protestant Institute for Archaeology. Only local workmen of Umm Qeis were employed, except for the carpentry and metal work, which were done at the school for the Deaf in Salt. Other



Sarcophagus — a stone coffin at Umm Qeis

Photo by P. Grunwald

facilities such as water and electricity were provided by the concerned authorities.

In this traditional dress of a white thobe and hatta and agal, Abu Fayez, Ahmad Melkawi, the son of the original owner of the Melkawi House, and the previous Mukhtar (chief) of Umm Qeis settlement, proudly explains that, after one year of restorations, his family house came to be the living image of the past.

The main gate to the house, with its Roman arch, leads to the cleared courtyard. To further enhance the traditional look of the courtyard, Abu Fayez was encouraged by the supervisor of the archaeological team to plant grapes, olive, pomegranate and carob trees. Adorned stone doors and pottery pieces are on display in the courtyard or rather 'the open air museum' for further studying. "Different coins struck in the ancient city of Umm Qeis, and Hellenistic pottery utensils with amphora handles, testify the rich trade connection between Rhodes Island and the near East," said Dr Weber.

Restorations at the Melkawi house often took place in accordance with details described by the older generation, as they remember how the old house used

to be. The chicken hut and the baking (taboon) rooms, as well as others were restored and painted in the traditional lime-wash. Furthermore, at the east side of the house, seven square rooms were also renovated to show off the arch ceiling, a feature of Palestinian architecture.

Commanding a beautiful scene over the point where Wadi Al Arab meets Wadi Al-Urdon (Jordan Valley), one of the restored rooms was the Madafah (guest room). Presently, members of the archaeological mission and other enthusiastic Jordanians are starting a library there. In co-operation with the Director of Public Libraries, Mr Ahmad Sharkas, history and geography books of the northern territory of Jordan, in English and Arabic languages, were provided to establish the scheme of a library for the usage of the public.

After World War II, members of the Melkawi family built an extension of a square room on the outside wall of the house. The residents of Umm Qeis call it the Dokaneh 'grocery', which explains its previous usage as a shop. This 'shop' is the present office, where excavated antiquities are being documented by computer.



Mechanical help for the heavy work

Many of the furniture at the Melkawi house was bought from the villagers in an attempt to preserve the rural lifestyle during the beginning of this century. An ornate blue lin cupboards (namiah) displayed at the house is a living example of the beautiful craftsmanship of that time.

The visitor to Melkawi house will enjoy a break under the 'arishah', a shady roof of wood and palm trees, when received by Abu Fayez and his family, who continue to live and oversee the restored Melkawi house.

In an attempt to revive the splendour of the ancient city of Gadara, the Governorate of Irbid, according to the Governor, Mr Akram Al-Naser is considering the idea of holding an international cultural festival at Umm Qeis in April 1988. He said that the festival will be aimed at directing the attention of the world towards the culturally rich village, and so, raising the necessary funds for the continuation of restoration works.

Commemorating Meleager, one of the distinguished native poets of ancient Umm Qeis, the festival will include poetry recitals of Greek epilogues translated into Arabic, as well as Greek translations of Abu Tamam's verses.

Musical will echo throughout the valley during the three-day festival. 'Al-Yarmouk', a musical symphony, composed by the Egyptian musician Saad Awad, will be performed for the first time at one of the open air theatres of the Graeco Roman city of Umm Qeis.

Such a festival, to which art lovers from all parts of the world will be invited, will indeed bring back the smile to the faces of the muses of the city who, for quite long a time, have been musing over the memories of the glorious past.



The colonnaded Street

Photo by P. Grunwald

Jordan Crown Prince's Award

A programme leading to self reliance

By Venita Maudsley
Special to The Star

THE ARAB Conference for the International Award Scheme, known as the Crown Prince's Award in Jordan, started on Tuesday 29 September at the Plaza Hotel. The aim of the conference is to define the Award Scheme and to discuss its development in, and relevance to the Arab World.

The Crown Prince's Award Scheme (CPA) was set up in Jordan at the Amman Baccalaureate School in 1984 under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. It is based on the British Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme which is now part of a world-wide operation known by different names in different countries. It is a scheme set up to give young people, between the ages of 14 and 25, experience of various skills and activities leading to self reliance, and an awareness of social interactions.

There are three levels of achievement for the participants, the Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards, and in order to receive them they must display proficiency in skills of their own choice, have taken part in a sporting activity, carried out some community service, and taken part in an expedition. It is totally non-competitive, the emphasis throughout being on the individual and their efforts to improve their own performance.

The Arab Conference has attracted delegates from ten Arab countries and includes Mr Abdlatif Simali, minister of youth from Morocco, Mr Abd Alrahman Al Khudari, permanent secretary for the Ministry of Education of Kuwait, Sheikh Issa Bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, head of General Organization of Youth and Sports of



Conference on Crown Prince's Award opens in Amman

Bahrain, as well as the Jordanian Minister of Youth Mr Eid Dhayat, and representatives from many other Jordanian organizations, and cultural attaches from other Arab countries.

The opening addresses of the conference took place on Wednesday morning. Dr. Hani Abdul Rahman, dean of students at the University of Jordan, welcomed the delegates and introduced the Speakers. Miss Samar Kildani, CPA co-ordinator and main organizer of the conference, described the general outline of the Scheme, and its history in Jordan. She said

the scheme has developed from 40 participants in 1984 to something like 600 in 1987, coming from many different schools and from the universities of Jordan and Yarmouk. Miss Kildani was followed by Commander David Newing who is the International Secretary of the International Forum, and is based in London. He firstly congratulated Miss Kildani on her "extraordinary energy" in organizing the Conference and thanked the Amman Baccalaureate School for their support in getting the CPA started. He then gave an over-view of the scheme

world-wide.

At present there are 47 countries carrying out the Award Scheme and this is increasing every year, by 1988, there should be over 50 countries. In Britain, about 10 per cent of all young people are taking part, now about 200,000. It is the largest youth programme in Britain and the fastest growing world-wide. He outlined the aims and philosophy of the award Scheme which are embodied in the following Declaration.

The Award concept is one of in-

dividual challenge. It presents young people a balanced, non-competitive programme of voluntary activities which encourage personal discovery and growth, self-reliance, perseverance, responsibility for themselves and service to their community.

He emphasized that the programme offers links between the classroom and the adult world.

Finally, the Minister of Youth Mr Eid Dhayat, read a speech from Prince Hassan. In discussing the importance of the Award Scheme to Arab Youth, he pointed out that, in the Arab World, youth are in the majority. (The Ministry mentioned earlier that 49 per cent of Jordanians are under 16 years old). He pointed out the importance of this group of people and the possible dangers involved, they are not given direction at this critical age. All sectors of the community, from the family up, can have an important effect in the development.

"The philosophy of the Award Scheme is a new way for us to get young people to respond, to learn ways of occupying the time in a useful manner and to teach them about planning their lives," he said. In General, he said that the Award Scheme is a very effective way of pointing the youth in the right direction for the 21st century.

Over the next few days, the delegates will take part in a comprehensive programme of seminars and activities. The seminars will aim to develop a working scheme and handbook for the Arab World. Papers will be presented by a number of experienced CPA supervisors on the main activities of the scheme. Visits will also be made to schools and other institutions to see the CPA in action. Finally, there will be a number of social events including visits to some of the tourist attractions of Jordan.

STAR FEATURES

The goddess flies to moon in a Chinese art exhibit

By Frida Mdanat
Special to The Star

THE GODDESS of the Moon "flying to the moon", a harvest of fish, characters in traditional opera, the dragon dance, a view of the countryside—these and many more themes featured scenes of Chinese tradition and folklore at the recent Chinese Exhibition of Fine Arts and Handicrafts.

The exhibition, brought in by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China and displayed at the Royal Cultural Centre last week, included works by Chinese artists and craftsmen on subjects depicting the Chinese way of life, architecture, costumes, nature and tradition.

The exhibits, divided into four categories—paper cuttings, paintings on silk, cork sculpture and handicrafts—demonstrate a mastery of art and craft, exclusive to the Chinese culture.

The works, whether paper cut-

tings or sculptures, portrayed precision, perseverance and unmitigated skill.

The paper cuttings, only clearly distinguished by a close view, are precise bits of paper cuts intricately arranged and glued on white cartons producing colourful pictures and designs with varying techniques of rendering the positive and negative versions of the paper cuts.

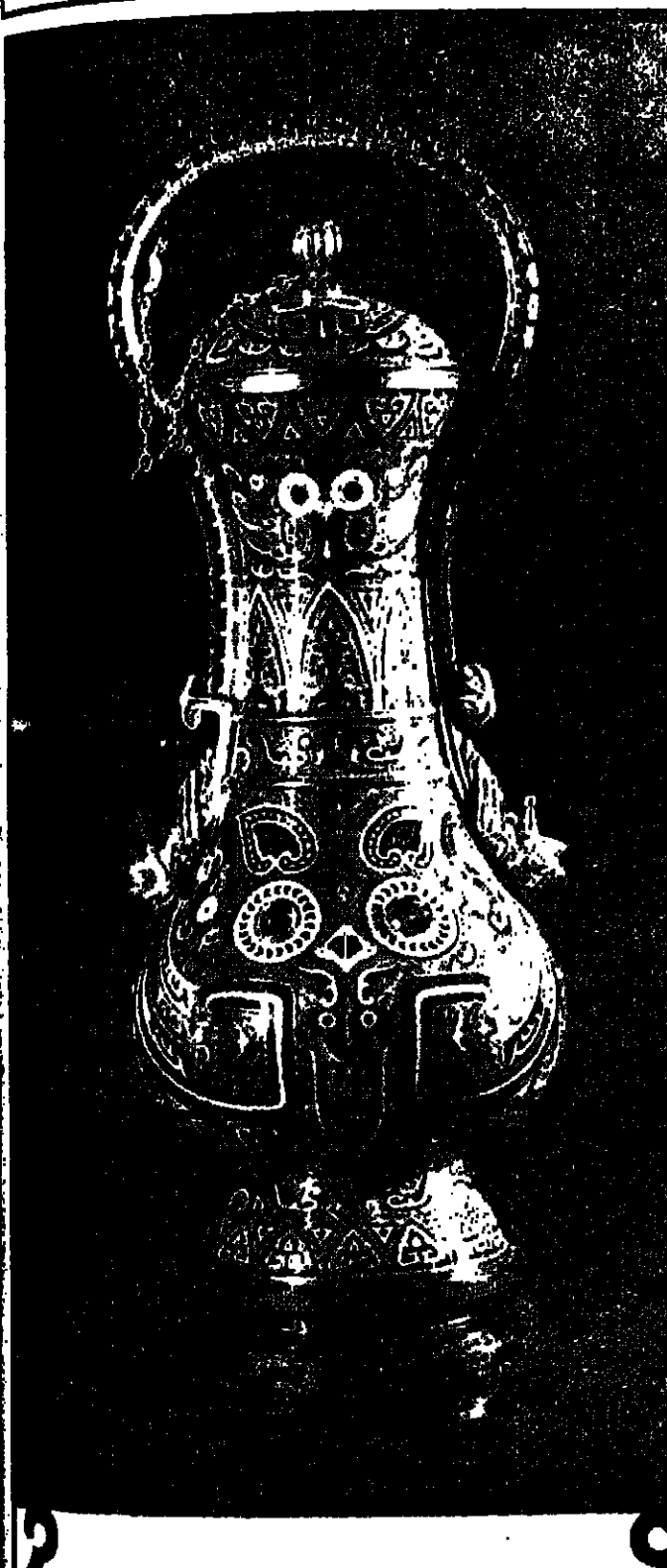
The paper cuttings section included pictures of the Great Wall, birds and flowers, a scene depicting Chinese houses with protruding roofs overlooking a lake surrounded by greenery and tropical trees, and shots of women carrying out their daily routines. Those feature a "woman of Dai Tradition" reading a book, riding a bicycle, carrying a basket of fruits and sitting in a public place selling pineapples and bananas, or doing embroidery work.

Four large frames, making up a

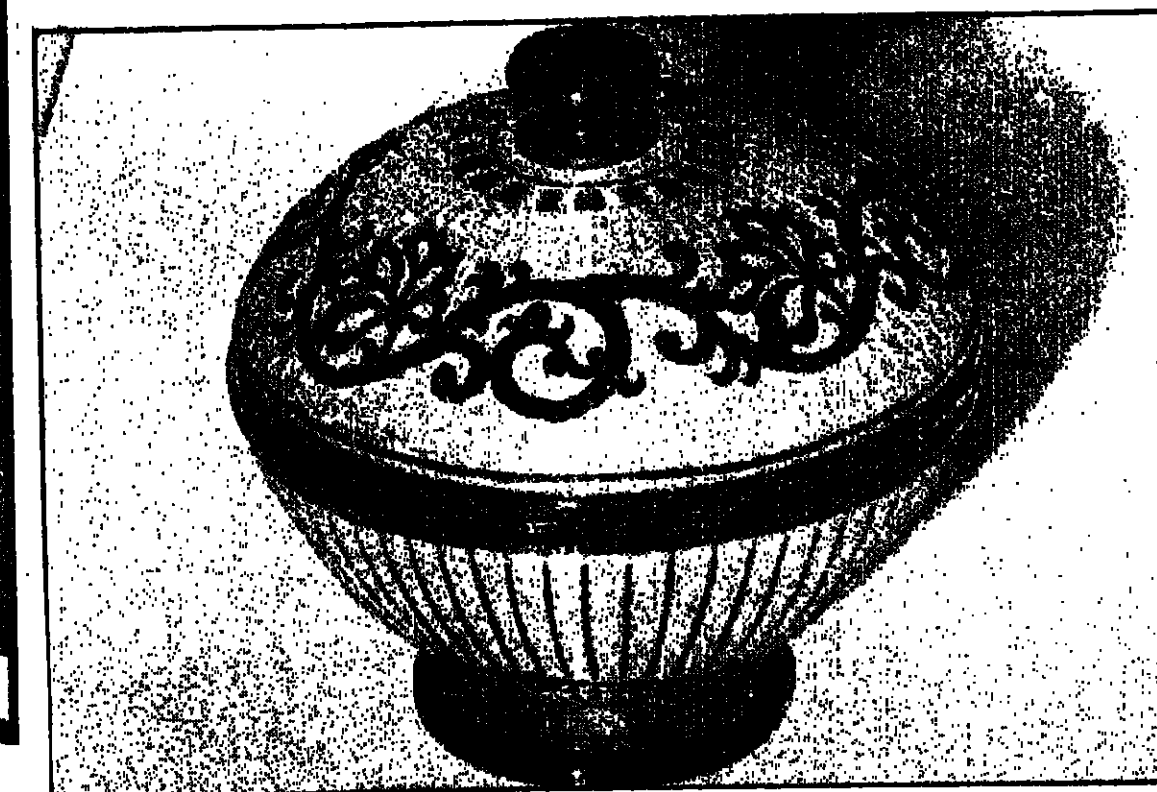
major part of the exhibition, are scenes done with mother of pearl ivory, coral, jade and other precious stones rendering a natural effect of the trees, lakes and houses.

Another part of the exhibition included a collection of enormous-sized paintings of silk, done in black and white and light colours, portraying horses, pandas and butterflies with Chinese writing along the silk canvas. Other pieces included cork and wood sculptures of houses and tropical plants, framed and covered with glass.

The handicraft section included a varied collection of straw and bamboo baskets, miniatures and figures done with engraved coral and other precious stones and ceramic and Chinese porcelain vases adorned with gold, in addition to a variety of decorative items done with wood and cork, cotton and fabrics.



Intimate workmanship displayed in very different materials: cloisonné (above) and bamboo (right)



Doubt about the Medical Treatment Corporation

By Wafa Abdel Hamid
Special to The Star

THE MEDICAL Treatment Corp. law was recently presented to, and endorsed by the Upper House of Parliament. Many concerned people voiced their dissatisfaction with the law before it was approved by a Royal Decree.

According to Dr Hassan Khreis, president of the Arab Physicians' Union, "All concerned parties, including the medical body, which bear the responsibility of offering medical services to citizens, are not given the chance to discuss the law governing the establishment of the corporation."

Dr Khreis emphasized the importance of engaging citizens in the making of decisions that affect them, adding that the Higher Medical Council had overlooked the Jordan Medical Association.

The Medical Treatment Corporation will come into being as of 16 October, 1987. It will be an Amman-based independent institution. All hospitals affiliated to the Ministry of Health, other Royal Medical Services, and university hospitals, will be owned by the new corporation. Thus, it will be considered as the legal body grouping all hospitals in the Kingdom.

The corporation's duties and responsibilities will include the following:

- Upgrading the technical and educational level of the corporation staff to render better and advanced medical services to citizens.
- Co-operating with the medical institutions of the private sector, and contracting them in fields re-

lating to the corporation's line of expertise.

- Constructing and developing laboratories and centres for scientific research in medical fields at hospitals affiliated with the corporation.
- Constructing, purchasing, or hiring hospitals.

- Offering treatment to citizens who are covered by the military and civil health insurance schemes.
- Offering treatment to citizens who are not covered by any health insurance in accordance with certain rules defined by the corporation's policy.

- Promoting the educational and training objectives of the Kingdom's medical science colleges, universities, and other official authorities.

Heated debates took place in medical centres over the duties of the corporation, and the extent to which it benefits the citizens.

Some doctors, who insisted on anonymity, said that there are several queries, which were left unanswered by the Corporation's law. They include the following:

- Is the corporation the best means to equalize and unite the level of medical services offered in public hospitals?
- Will the Medical Treatment Corporation have the means to achieve the banner of "Health for all" towards the year 2000?
- Can comprehensive health insurance for citizens be achieved through the corporation?
- Can comprehensive health insurance for citizens be achieved through the corporation?

— Is the process of merging the public sector hospitals in the Corporation a preparatory step towards its privatization, and if so, how will this affect the citizens and the medical sector?

— Which laws will govern the medical staff of the corporation, the military or the civil service laws?

Some doctors suggested that instead of merging hospitals into one institution, more hospitals should be constructed to offer medical services to more citizens, particularly in rural and poor areas. "It is time we quit building huge hospitals that cost the earth, and build small hospitals to offer more widespread medical services to citizens."

The corporation's purpose is to separate curative medicine from preventive medicine, which is 100 per cent the government's responsibility. So by separating the two how will the citizens be affected?

According to one doctor, the Ministry of Health is responsible for securing primary health care for 75 per cent of the country's population. The remaining 25 per cent are outpatients. He said that the Corporation will only be serving those patients who enter the hospital, and leave out the outpatients. The government now spends 2.7 per cent of the Ministry of Health's given budget. The government, he said, is obliged to provide citizens with education and treatment and preventive health care. But it seems that by approving the Corporation's establishment, the citizen will bear financial burdens.

Another doctor stressed the citizens' need for primary health care. He said that the government

should direct its efforts towards preventive health care instead of concentrating on medical treatment.

Still another doctor charged that according to the Ministry of Social Development Statistics, 30,000 Jordanian families have no income, "not even one red coin as income." Thus, he added, we are suffering from a very high cost of living, and the Corporation will only add to the financial burdens of the poor families. Many doctors expressed anxiety over the possibility of the privatization of the corporation.

After reviewing the Jordan Medical Association statistics, one finds there is a shortage in the absorption of medical staff in the primary health care sector, said one physician.

Another point of view comes from other doctors who see that the Corporation will best serve the interests of the citizens. The ownership of all hospitals which are affiliated with the Ministry of Health, Royal Medical Services, and university hospitals will serve the citizens because the Ministry of Health does not have all the required medical capabilities at its disposal. Thus, it will face a shortage in some services which the corporation will be able to provide.

Also, the corporation will serve to prevent duplication in the medical sector, and that will lead to saving large amounts of money, which in turn, will result in providing better and more developed services.

The Corporation will offer treatment to citizens covered by health insurance schemes, and those not covered will be forced to obtain

health insurance. This will be a step towards acquiring comprehensive health insurance in the Kingdom. According to some doctors, this step will help organize the private medical sector.

In the long run, the Corporation will provide good job opportunities for many doctors as it has the capability of establishing branches and spreading geographically. Dr Mamdouh Al Abbadi, president of the Medical Association told The Star in a telephone interview that the Corporation will lead to the prevention of duplication of services thus decreasing repeated expenditures, and consequently upgrading the level of medical services. He added that the Ministry of Health will be able to concentrate its efforts basically on primary health care and preventive medicine.

Dr Abbadi said that the Corporation is the legal body of the Ministry of Health hospitals, and expressed hopes that the corporation would draw up special regulations for the poor who are covered by neither the civil nor the military health insurance schemes.

Dr Abbadi praised the co-operation and co-ordination existing between the private and public medical sectors, and hoped for the enhancement in order to avoid the disadvantages of the competition between the two sectors which would only burden the citizens.

General Dr Daoud Hamad, general director of the Royal Medical Services said in a telephone interview that it was premature to discuss the Corporation's duties and, preferred to delay his responses until after 16 October.

By G.K. Nair
Special to The Star

SUVA, Fiji — Government hospitals and clinics in Fiji soon could face a critical shortage of doctors, as increasing numbers of Indians quit the country in the wake of the military coup earlier this year.

During the past few months, nearly 40 government-employed doctors have left the country "for study leave" and at least eight others have formally resigned their posts.

Many others, although continuing to work, are reported to be joining the growing queue of Indian professionals seeking to emigrate from the South Pacific country, whose newly-elected government was ousted in May.

Admitting some doctors already have left the country, a senior official at the department of Health and Social Welfare said, "There are likely to be other losses coming later."

Doctors in private practice, along with nurses and dentists, have been reported to be seeking to leave. Said former MP Himmat Sothi, an Indian, "If the present trend continues, in six months

'Brain drain' continues as doctors join Fiji exodus

time there won't be any Indian physicians or dental surgeons left."

Fiji's hospitals were short of medical staff even before Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka's military intervention toppled the Indian-dominated government of Dr Timoci Bavadra a month after it was elected.

Sources say that because of understaffing, doctors and nurses regularly have to work overtime at the country's three major divisional hospitals and health centres. There are two main hospitals on Viti Levu, Fiji's biggest island, and one on Vanua Levu, the next largest of the country's 100 inhabited islands.

To bridge the gap, the authorities are seeking to recruit doctors from Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and other countries in South-East Asia.

In addition, 28 retired medical officers have been called back to

work. "They are working full-time and their services will be continued," said a health department spokesman. Most of the retired doctors are Indians, however, and they too are reported to be in the emigration queue.

The current ratio of doctors to patients in government hospitals is not known, but according to World Bank statistics, Fiji averages one doctor per 2,180 people.

Up to the beginning of this year, Indians were reported leaving Fiji at the rate of about 300 a month, mostly to Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

In this country of 714,000 people, those of Indian descent slightly outnumber native-born Melanesians. Thousands have emigrated in recent years, however, because of constitutionally-entrenched restrictions on access to land and growing tension between the two communities.

Increasing numbers now are applying for visas to Australia and New Zealand, following the coup and subsequent moves by Governor-General Ratu Sir Penala Ganilau to amend the constitution to ensure that native Fijians in future keep overall control of the political process. The exodus is being led by Indian professionals, mainly engineers and accountants, but growing numbers of traders and businessmen also are seeking to leave.

Many businessmen have sent their families abroad. Typical is multi-millionaire Y.P. Reddy, who owns four major hotels and a construction company, and has assets both in Fiji and New Zealand. Reddy, awarded the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for his services to Fiji, has installed his family in Auckland and now commutes every week between the two countries.

Indians have lost trust in Fiji, Reddy said. "The country's economic future is dim."

As visa applications pile up at the Australian and New Zealand high commissions (embassies) in Suva, diplomats of both countries said although there has been no relaxation of visa rules, "the chances are bright for professionals and skilled workers."

New Zealand has indicated that Indians may visit the country in search of employment and once they found work "they could regularize their stay."

In Australia, Senator Robert Hill, chairman of the opposition Liberal Party's Foreign Affairs Committee has urged the Canberra government to open the door to more Indians from Fiji.

"Australia has a responsibility to those of another community in the region who feel they have no place in society, have lost their political rights and would prefer to emigrate," he said recently. "In my mind they are entitled to leave in the same way that oppressed people are elsewhere."

Australia might be accused of stripping Fiji of its economic backbone by accepting more migrants, Hill conceded, "but I put the responsibility back on the Fijians, on Colonel Rabuka and the chiefs, and what they want for Fiji in future."

The Cine Club — more than just watching a movie

Frida Mdanat
Special to The Star

WILL THE growing popularity of movie festivals, attracting exhibitors, critics and filmmakers to their screenings of new films in Cannes, Venice, Edinburgh, Moscow and other motion picture capitals, there has come about an increasing audience awareness that movies are more than casual entertainment. They are a form of art particularly expressive of the 20th century, an art with a cultural significance capable of developing a cinema culture.

With an aim to develop an awareness among people that the movie is a rich source of information and culture, the Cine Club was established for the first time in 1979 initiated by the late Prime Minister Abdul-Hamid Sharaf.

Its 25 members were prominent figures, largely governmental, which restricted the subscription or attendance of the public. The Club, which was then directed by Nabli Sawalha, continued to present irregular shows at the Haya Arts Centre for two years until it was dissolved in 1981.

In 1982 the Club was re-established by a small group of Jordanians who benefited from their predecessors' mistakes, aiming at presenting regular shows and attracting more people.

Hassan Abu Ghanimeh, Chairman of the Club, told The Star in an interview that the Club, during a restricted period of time, has been able to achieve its goals in attracting a growing audience to its shows and discussions.

He said the Club has now about 600 members, and receives more than 400 regular viewers each month.

"The Club's main policy," Mr Abu Ghanimeh said, "is to acquaint the Jordanian audience with high quality productions from all countries," adding that good productions are not only restricted to Hollywood.

Since its establishment, Mr Abu Ghanimeh said, the Cine Club has presented a large number of festivals with films from Turkey, Italy, France, East Germany, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union, in contrast with Jordanian cinema

houses which choose films of a commercial character.

Often it happens, he said, that films gain popularity following a presentation at the Club. "Discussion and criticism, and the absence of censorship, shed light on unknown aspects of the film" he explained.

The Jordanian Cine Club is an independent entity, financed by annual subscription fees and entry tickets. To boost its revenue, the Club has recently started a monthly publication on cinema topics which also contributes in enhancing the Jordanian public knowledge on different cinema topics. It includes critical reviews of major film productions and of prominent actors, actresses and directors.

In addition, each month a book is published by a different author on subjects specific to cinema and the movie as a form of art and source of culture.

The fifth edition, due to be published during October, will include critical discussions by European film critics with the Jordanian public on films presented by the Club. Previous books dealt with subjects such as "Aesthetic concepts," "A seat in front of the screen," and "Search for a Jordanian cinema."

A book by Hassan Abu Ghanimeh "Forms of different cinemas" includes analysis and reviews of Soviet films. It reviews the human motives behind the Soviet War movies, and contains a characterization of the Soviet cinema and criticism of a number of films based on traditional literature.

Since March this year there have been five daily presentations offering a cinema house facility — at the Club headquarters in the Al-Rashid area. In October, the Club will start a weekly show at Hayat Cine Theatre in Sweileh and a monthly show at Al-Ahli Club, the Rehabilitation Centre in Mahatta, the Marriott Hotel and a number of cultural centres in Karak, Irbid, and Aqaba. Discussions, led by Hassan Abu Ghanimeh followed the presentations of the films.

The Club's future plans include the establishment of a Jordanian Cinema Archive similar to the Film Library of the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the British Film Institute in London and the Cinematheque Francaise in Paris.

Through the establishment of archives for the preservation and showing of films no longer in commercial circulation, it will be possible for the public to review past achievements and to benefit from the movies through study and research.



Reem Yasin's
Cinema Corner

The morbid world of Ingmar Bergman

THE RENOWNED Swedish director Ingmar Bergman stands unchallenged as his country's pre-eminent filmmaker. But Bergman has his own standing in world cinema as well: he is considered by Jean-Luc Godard as "the most original 'auteur' of modern European cinema." His greatness, Godard says, "lies in his ability to express the obsessions of his age in the language of that age."

These obsessions are expressed by Bergman through a highly personal approach. Basically, Ingmar Bergman is an intensely personal and highly individualistic director (which, in fact, is what 'auteurism' is all about), primarily preoccupied with the private inner turmoil of tortured human beings.

The world of Ingmar Bergman's films is by no means a pleasant one. In his pictures there is no room for the pleasures and positive aspects of human existence. Bergman's characters are invariably miserable, very often for no apparent reason, and human relationships are often regarded with great pessimism.

His film "Face to Face" (shown last week at the Cine Club) is quite typical of his work. It is an ultimately depressing and intensely shocking film about a woman heading towards a nervous breakdown. Jenny is in fact a psychiatrist (a disturbingly honest performance by Liv Ullmann) who treats the mentally and emotionally disturbed but who cannot come face to face with her own traumas.

"Face to Face" is a perceptive, poignant and horrifically moving study of Jenny's suffering as she moves towards nervous breakdown and finally tries to commit suicide. Her unsuccessful suicide attempt is intensely moving in all its stages: the initial drowsiness, the following alienation from reality when all of Jenny's nightmares materialize before her and her childhood fears torment her, up until the final moment when her eyes look up sleepily from under heavy lids and slowly recognize that the appalling business of life must begin all over again.

However, these moments in the film (though disturbingly moving in themselves) do not make the heroine's suffering more credible or closer to the audience's sympathy. Jenny's neurotic suffering remains detached and unconvincing (even though the two levels of action in the film — the real and the imagined — are exquisitely blended and artistically expressed). Jenny's nightmares remain strictly her own.

The human suffering that is most harrowing in the film is that of Jenny's grandparents. They are two old people awaiting their inevitable and imminent end with awe and dignity. Their torment is the only sane and strikingly real suffering in a film that evolves around death in all its aspects: the spiritual, the emotional and the physical.

It is with all of these aspects together that Jenny has to come 'face to face' before healing herself and reaching her own salvation and peace of mind.

Recent film releases

Orphans (R) Albert Finney — Gangster transforms lives of two desperate brothers, top acting (Good).

The Pick-up Artist (PG-13) Robert Downey Jr., Molly Ringwald — Light-weight romantic comedy about dauntless womanizer (Fair).

The Principal (R) Jim Belushi — Awkward story of embattled principal at the City's toughest high school (Boring).

Amazon Women on the Moon (R) Rosanna Arquette — Multi-sketch satire generally falls flat (Fair).

The Big Easy (R) Dennis Quaid, Ellen Barkin — Police corruption, murder and romance in New Orleans (Good).

The Curse (R) Claude Akins — Unimaginative horror story set in Tennessee farm community (Boring).

Fatal Attraction (R) Michael Douglas — Crackerjack thriller of man caught in threatening extra-marital affair (Good).

The Fourth Protocol (R) Michael Caine — Feisty British agent stops KGB atom bomb plot, cracker jack thriller (Good).

Hamburger Hill (R) Courteney Vance — Unimpressive account of bloody assault by US troops in Vietnam (Fair).

In the Mood (PG-13) Patrick Dempsey — 14-year-old man's older woman, fine screenplay based on novel (Good).

La Bamba (PG-13) Lou Diamond Phillips — Heartfelt biopic of '50s rocker Ritchie Valens (Good).

No Way Out (R) Kevin Costner — High-voltage political thriller about murder and cover-up in Washington (Good).

The last great climb on Everest

By Ian Markham-Smith
Special to The Star

KONG — A group of the world's top climbers is attempting the last great mountaineering challenge left to mankind — the final unclimbed face of Everest.

The British-led, seven-man team hope to scale the deadly North East Ridge of the world's highest mountain, an approach which has claimed many climbers' lives in the past.

and to make their efforts even more difficult, they are undertaking their hazardous mission against this 3.2 km-long ridge which slopes down into Tibet without supplementary oxygen.

The international team is led by veteran mountaineer Doug Scott, 32, and compatriot Rick Allen.

Scott's 24-year-old son Mike is part of the team, and if their 21st successful climb this will mark the first time father and son have conquered the 8848-metre mountain. Mike, a carpenter by trade, lives in Sweden.

The climbers have approached the summit from the Chinese side since September, another first, and hope to reach the summit towards the end of October.

The Chinese authorities have been reluctant to give their permission for such an attempt.

Said co-leader Allen, a North Sea petroleum engineer who lives in Scotland, and one of the few climbers who has survived an attempt on the North East face, "We are extremely lucky to be the first

expedition to get the go-ahead from the Chinese authorities."

"The North East Ridge is the last unclimbed ridge on Everest and poses a tremendous challenge, particularly without the use of oxygen. Yet ironically, I believe that it is the only way it can be climbed."

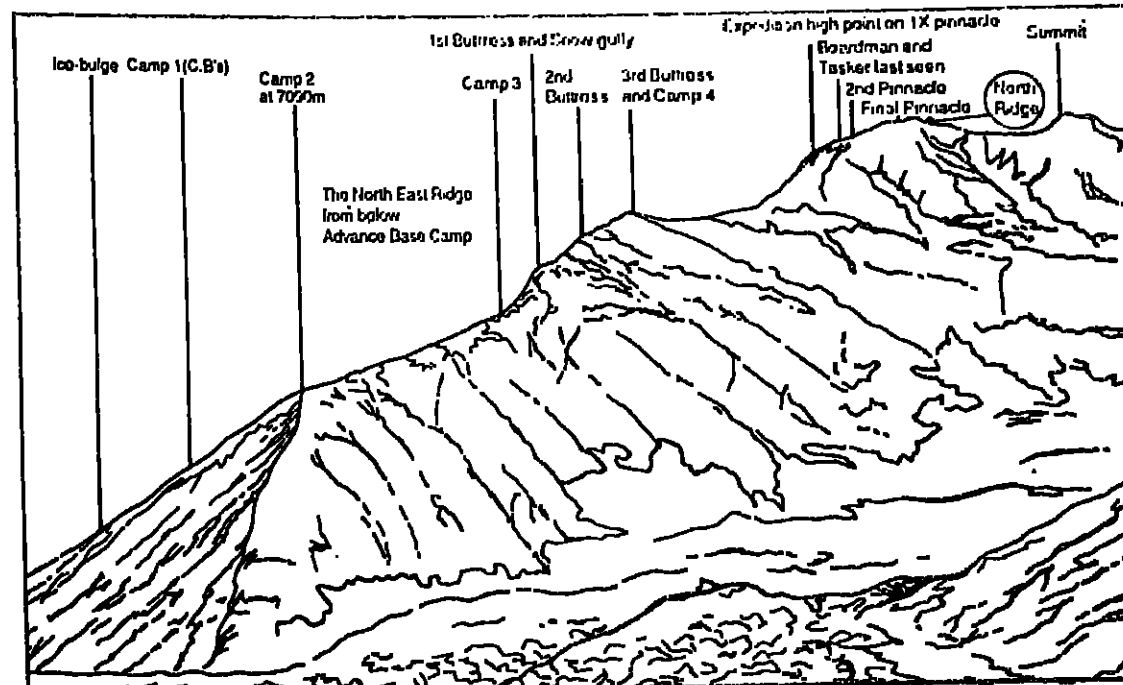
"The ridge has been attempted three times before, each time unsuccessfully, but this time I believe we have one of the strongest and most experienced teams in the world of mountaineering today."

The most difficult part of the climb is expected to be a section called the pinnacles, heartbreakingly near the summit. If all goes according to plan the team will spend three weeks reaching the start of the pinnacles — and a further three weeks on the last 900 metres to the peak.

Allen, who made it that far in his last, unsuccessful assault on the mountain in 1985, went on, "The team will face major difficulties 8,000 metres on the so-called pinnacles section and from there on the ability of the team to move quickly over the difficult ground will be crucial in succeeding on the ridge."

"But the combination of experience that we have put together in this team gives us a unique opportunity to climb this ridge successfully."

Team leader Scott, a former geography teacher turned full-time, professional climber, and veteran of 22 previous Asian expeditions — including the first ascent of the South West face of Everest in 1975 — is a firm believer



The challenging North East ridge of Everest

ever in the Alpine approach to climbing: no oxygen, no extended fixed ropes and no high-altitude porters.

Ironically, the pioneers of this approach in the Himalayas, Britons Pete Boardman and Joe Tasker, died attempting the North East Ridge five years ago.

Said Scott, a man who believes in moving fast despite his 180 cm—82.7 kg frame: "When the moment comes we set off with pack weight trimmed to the limit, even if that means cutting the labels off our underpants!"

The speed and lack of burdens — even including oxygen — is essential, he believes, because of losing muscle-tissue and general physical deterioration on such a high, exposed and extended ridge.

Scott, based in Cumbria in the

English Lake district, attributes his own physical strength and endurance to his strict vegetarian diet.

Other members of the team also bring a wealth of experience to the attempt.

Scotsman Sandy Allen, a North Sea oil location technician who worked off-shore, was a member of the unsuccessful team which tackled the north East face two years ago.

Also on that expedition was Nick Kekus, 29, a civil engineer living in Cumbria, England, who has climbed all over the world. His new bride, Sarah Squibb, was a member of the 1985 team and is accompanying him this time as an observer.

American Steve Sustad, 28, married to an Englishwoman and working as a carpenter in Nottingham, England, has wide experience

in the Alps and the Himalayas, including a climb of 8,500 m on Makalu without using supplementary oxygen.

And rounding off the team is Austrian mountain guide Robert Schauer, 33, from Graz, one of Europe's most successful high-altitude climbers. He has climbed Everest once already, in 1978.

The climb is sponsored by the American-based Altos Computer Systems, who saved the expedition only days before it was to have been called off for lack of financial support.

Archie Thomas, managing director of Altos' British subsidiary, said, "We are proud to be part of such an exciting and historic adventure." The team hopes to return in triumph to London in November.



'Forms of different cinemas,' one of the Cine Club's new books

PEOPLE & EVENTS

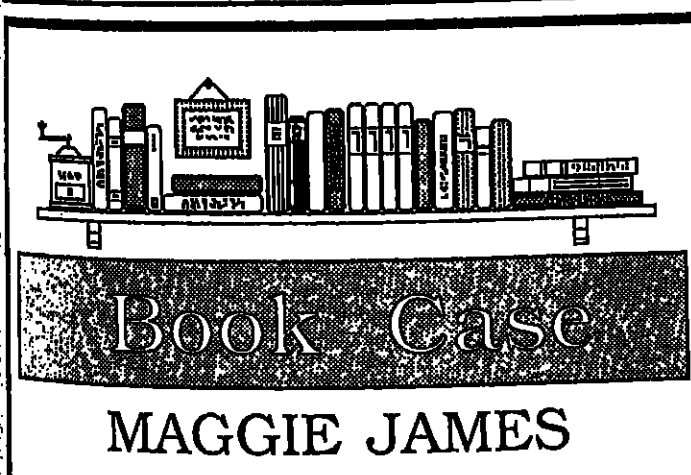
• Ambassador and Mrs Ali Abdullah Al Lohoom of the Yemen Arab Republic invited Amman to celebrate the Silver Anniversary of the 26 September Revolution, and most of Amman responded, congratulating them and wishing them continuous prosperity. Among top Jordanian officials attending were Senate Speaker Ahmad Al-Lawzi, Acting Foreign Minister Marwan Dudin, Foreign Ministry Protocol Chief Atef Halasa, newly appointed Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates Zuhair Sakliha, Former Ambassador Dr Hani Al-Khasawneh, Agriculture Undersecretary Salem Al-Lawzi and many others; from the Arab Economic Union Council Dr Hassan Gharaibeh, Palestine National Council

Speaker Sheikh Abdul-Hamid Al-Sayeh, PLO Executive Committee Representative in Jordan Brigadier Abdul-Rezzaq Al-Yahya, Military Department Head and Mrs Samir Al-Khatib, Sajj Salameh, and Ahmad Al-Jamal.

Some of the many Arab Ambassadors present were Saudi Arabia's Mohammad Fahd Al-Issa, Oman's Khamis bin Hamad bin Al-Battashi, Sudan's Ambassador and Mrs Radwan Mahgoub, and Egypt's Ihab Wahba. Foreign Embassies were also represented by Chilean Ambassador Carlos Derpech, Pakistan's Saghira Husain Syed, Chinese Ambassador and Mrs Zhang Zhen, Mr Shih, France's Ambassador and Mrs Patrick Leclerc and the Soviet Union's Alexander Zint-

chuk. From the American Embassy came Don Minyard and Joe Flaherty along with the British Embassy's Philip Manley, Italian Embassy's Guido and Katherine Carboni, Greece's Michael and Evelyn Koukakis and Brazilian Ambassador Felix de Faria. Oil exploration was there in the persons of Mr and Mrs Chris Stone from the Jordan Hunt Company.

Last but not least, the press: Kamel Al-Sharif from Ad-Dustour, Al-Rai, Chief Mahmoud, Al-Kayed, Tareq Massarweh, Sultan Hattab, Reuters' Alistair Lyon and Lella Deeb, JTV's Lena Gress, Randa Habib and husband Andan Gharaybeh, Mohammad Doudieh, Dr Khaled Al-Karak, George Hawatme, Rif at Oqah and countless others;



The Flying Sheikh. Najib Alamuddin. Quartet Books London. 290pp.

YOU GUESSED right, Najib Alamuddin is the Flying Sheikh. And why shouldn't he be? For nearly three decades he was the chairman and president of the Middle East Airlines, one of the best known airlines in the area, praised both for its services and its resilience in the face of the war in Lebanon.

The deepening conflict in Lebanon has plunged the airline into a battle for survival, but stop... This book is not about MEA, but about an important part of the history of the Middle East when Najib presided over a highly sensitive operation, coming into contact with the high and mighty and having to deal with potentially explosive forces.

Alamuddin, son of an eminent Ormuz family, was a successful businessman: already when he was in his 20s he was running the MEA as a temporary expedient, but lasted 25 years.

"This," says Alamuddin, "is not

just an autobiography, but also the story of an airline and a country."

According to the publishers, Quartet, Alamuddin's account is "courageous... for its author believes that nothing less than honesty facing unwelcome truths can make it possible to avoid a recurrence of the terrible bloodletting of the past dozen years in Lebanon."

"The lessons implied are as much for the West, which has allowed these events to happen, as for the people of Lebanon, whose weaknesses have been exploited by ruthless international interests."

Alamuddin concludes on a pessimistic note: "Whatever happens, however, Lebanon can never be the same as it was. The golden days of the Land of Milk and Honey are gone for ever, to be replaced by a divided and mutilated country with possibly an 'Arab face'."

Gandhi, Antony Copley, Basil Blackwell 118pp.

Antony Copley, author of Gandhi, is Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Kent at Canterbury. He introduces Gandhi



New books feature Gandhi and Najib Alamuddin

with the following: "It is a very provocative, and indeed enticing, introduction which promises more within the restricted confines of the book."

Any book on Gandhi, however, cannot go unnoticed by those who hold conflicting views on his historical role, and Copley's Gandhi will not be an exception.

In emphasizing Gandhi's historical context, his role as a catalyst to events, Copley believes he has "drawn attention to the shortcomings of his actions, to the way they deflected or even disregarded alternative solutions to problems."

To recognize the universality of



IN MUCH of the non-Western — particularly the Third-World, the industrial revolution and the West have always been seen to be inseparable and inevitably so.

But why did industrialization come to the West at all? Why did it not begin somewhere else when everyone seemed to be in the same boat — hungry, illiterate, backward?

The question has been asked 'ad infinitum' and answered with any number of arguments. From slavery to science, almost every major event in human history has been seen as the trigger for the West's economic take-off.

In reinterpreting the complex factors that cause the reciprocal relationships to produce the West's economic miracle, the authors emphasize three key words, namely autonomy, experiment and diversity. They also explode a few myths along the way, such as that mass production and corporate modernization consolidated that miraculous growth of power.

Well, it didn't, say Rosenberg and Birdzell, and have plenty of reasons to explain why.

It's a well narrated work which should be of special value to development economists in the developing countries, and, of course, the policymakers and leaders in charge.

SELF ESTEEM ENHANCEMENT
First Time in Amman — 5 week course at the American Community School Library
FREE INTRODUCTORY CLASS
Monday 5 October at 7:00 p.m.
For further information contact Dr Jim Henry,
Tel: 843555 ext 2794 at the University of Jordan
Amman Saturday — Wednesday, business hours
9 am — 4 pm.

monitor

Palestinians seek US aid over Israeli 'water theft.'

By Alan George
Special to The Star

ISRAELI PLANS to exploit underground water supplies in the occupied West Bank of Jordan are facing mounting opposition. Israel denies that the water will be used inequitably, and insists that the local Arab population will not suffer. Yet international concern is now being added to that voiced by Palestinians — and an American firm involved in drilling operations has confirmed that it will do no work unless the Palestinians sanction the plan.

Palestinians in the occupied West Bank are seeking assistance from American authorities in their efforts to block an Israeli plan to pump underground water from the region. Israel says it needs the water to relieve shortages in Jerusalem and in new Israeli settlements in the area. West Bank Arabs fear that the scheme could deprive them of water at a time of rising local shortages, and see the plan as the latest example of Israeli exploitation of the West Bank's water resources at the expense of the local Arab population.

Formal concern over the plan, which would violate international agreements over the exploitation of water in occupied territory, has been expressed by Egypt, the United Nations and the European Community, and, less formally, by the United States. Palestinian protesters have already received support from the US-based drilling company involved in the plan, which has stated that it will not take part if water supplies are to be used inequitably.

The Israeli plan calls for 18 million cubic metres of water per year

The consequences of the depletion of water supplies have been catastrophic for Palestinian farmers

to be pumped from a large aquifer beneath Herodion, north east of Bethlehem. The Ministry of Agriculture has been discussing the scheme with the Moriah Technology and Energy Corporation, a local subsidiary of MT Moriah Trust, a Christian Fundamentalist organization based in the USA.

Local Palestinian leaders have been swift to denounce the plan. Mayor Elias Freij of Bethlehem claims that it would "dry up all the existing wells and leave the Bethlehem region, waterless and dry." Bethlehem and the adjacent townships of Beit Sahour and Beit Jalla, are already suffering water shortages, he noted, adding that the plan "threatens our very existence."

The Israelis vehemently deny that the project will affect Arab

Israeli Press

Kol Haer writes: Before leaving to New York to attend the meetings of the UN General Assembly, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was summoned by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir who asked him to avoid talking about the international peace conference especially with the American and Soviet foreign ministers.

Shimon Peres, adds the paper, has strongly rejected Shamir's request and insisted on referring to the conference provided he points out that there are sharp differences within the Israeli government concerning the conference.

The paper concludes by voicing full support for Peres' efforts to boost the conference's idea at the international circles, and emphasizes that Shamir should realize that the conference will finally convene because as the paper says, it is the only hope for the establishment of a peaceful settlement in the region.

Al Hamishmar says that the hope for a better life is renewed by the advent of every new year. Every one in Israel looks forward to seeing a practical and actual improvement in peace efforts and initiatives, and at the same time becomes very disheartened in realizing that long and precious time has been wasted without scoring any progress or even one step forward with regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Admittedly, there are still so many opponents of peace in Israel who get frightened whenever any hope for peace looms in the horizon. These opponents consider peace as a major threat to Israel's existence and do their best to hamper any sincere effort for reaching a just settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Hadeeshot says that the extremist Rabbi Mier Kahane Monday announced that he will pay a visit to Al Yamoun village in Jineen area in order to call on the Arab inhabitants there to leave the village and emigrate quietly and peacefully before he resorts to violence to compel them to abandon their houses together with all other Arabs living in the occupied territories.

The Rabbi's planned visit, adds the paper, has apparently emerged in the aftermath of the assassination of an Israeli soldier last Friday near Al Afouleh area by an Arab resident of Al Yamoun village.

The paper then calls on the Israeli security authorities to ban the extreme Rabbi's provocative visit and force him to stop all his aggressive and nefarious practices against the Arab civilians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The paper concludes saying that Mier Kahane has willfully and repeatedly violated the Israeli law, and suggests that it is time now to put an end to his senseless and stupid behaviour.

Haaretz comments that Shimon Peres' last week's talks with the Soviet foreign minister in New York has apparently paved the way for a tangible, though slow and gradual, improvement in the Israeli-Soviet diplomatic ties.

The talks, adds the paper, have prompted the Kremlin to extend the term of the Soviet delegation's presence in Israel by three more months an indication that a Soviet embassy could in the near future be opened there.

The two officials have primarily focused on the possibility of convening an international peace con-

ference attended by all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict in addition to the five permanent member countries of the UN Security Council including the USSR.

The paper goes on saying that Radio Moscow commended Shimon Peres and described him as being more moderate than Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir who lays all obstacles and practices mounting pressures to have the conference idea shunned and phased out for ever.

Yodo'ut Ahronot says that the Israeli society has in the past few years changed into a place fraught with violence and disorder. This phenomenon, adds the paper, is easily discernible at Knesset sessions, demonstrations staged by religious and secular groups, public areas and even at football games and inside Jewish synagogues.

However, the paper goes on, violence has lately spread into other sectors mostly characterized by a blatant onslaught against journalists. There is currently a tough campaign launched against journalists to the extent that new songs are composed and broadcast ridiculing them in addition to the stabbing of Journalist Tsadoq Yahzli who works for Yodo'ut Ahronot paper few weeks ago.

The paper wonders what next will be used against journalists and says that most likely, Israeli extremists will finally emulate those in Lebanon and resort to guns and other death instruments in order to silence anybody calling for the freedom of speech and criticizing Jewish opponents of peace and democracy.

Palestine Briefs

Arab house demolished

Israeli occupation troops have demolished the house of a Palestinian suspected of stabbing to death an Israeli reserve soldier.

The attack on the soldier, Alexander Arad, 43, took place at the Megiddo Junction, north of the West Bank.

According to Israeli military sources, Hilla Mohammed Ibrahim, acknowledged killing the soldier during interrogation. His house near the West Bank town of Jenin was demolished on order of Amram Mitzna, the chief of the army's central command.

Mubarak rejects a request by Shamir for a meeting

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has reportedly told Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir that they could meet if Shamir endorsed an international peace conference on the Middle East. The Editor of the Cairo weekly October Magazine, Salah Montasser, reported that Shamir requested the meeting with Mubarak, saying that they can meet secretly if that is what the Egyptian leader wanted.

Mr Mubarak countered the proposal with a suggestion that once Shamir agreed to attend a UN-sponsored Middle East peace conference, they would meet in Bucharest in the presence of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu.

Peres may meet Chinese counterpart

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and his Chinese counterpart may meet this week in what would be the highest-ranking diplomatic encounter between the two countries, an Israeli government official said Monday.

Mr Peres and China's Wu Zueqian are both in New York to attend the 42nd session of the UN General Assembly.

Gap in public support is narrowing between Labour and Likud

The gap in public support for Israel's two major political blocs has narrowed in recent months, according to a public opinion poll released this week.

The poll conducted among 1088 Israelis by the Independent Modin Ezrahi Institute, also showed a drop in support for Kadot, the extremist right-wing and anti-Arab party led by Rabbi Meir Kahane.

Israel bar ex-mayor from attending conference

Israel barred the former mayor of the occupied West Bank city of Hebron from attending a British Labour Party conference which opened Monday, Palestinian and Israeli officials said.

Mustafa Natshe said Israeli officials gave no reason for rejecting his request. An Israeli official confirmed Mr Natshe had been denied a travel permit because the former mayor had in the past "publicly expressed support for armed struggle against Israel and since then did not explain himself or deny his statement."

Rise in population

Israel's population rose 1.7 per cent to 4,375,000 in 12 months, the central bureau of statistics said this week. Nearly 18 per cent or 785,000 are non-Jews. The figures do not include the Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

About 12,000 Jewish immigrants arrived in Israel during the period compared with 9,200 the previous year, the bureau said.

Yugoslavia not to resume ties with Israel

Yugoslavia has assured visiting Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat that it is not about to resume diplomatic ties with Israel or drop its support for the PLO, Palestinian sources said Tuesday.

Mr Arafat arrived in Yugoslavia amid speculation in Belgrade and Tel Aviv that Yugoslavia was about to resume relations broken off 20 years ago at the time of the 1987 war.

Israel revokes residency papers of an Arab American

A prominent Arab American who advocates initiating the peaceful methods of Mahatma Gandhi to resist Israel's military occupation said Tuesday that Israeli authorities had revoked his residency papers without explanation.

Jerusalem-born Mubarak E. Awad said he believed the reason was that his 1983 book, "Non-Violent Resistance in the Occupied Territories," had come to the attention of Israeli military authorities following its translation into Hebrew.

"They are trying to force me to leave the country," said Mr Awad 44, who is currently in Israel on a tourist visa which expires in three weeks and has a home in Wapakoneta, Ohio.

THE JERUSALEM STAR

Finance, business & economy

Amman Chamber of Industry: 25 years of growth

His Majesty King Hussein, addressing the opening ceremony on the occasion of the Amman Chamber of Industry's silver jubilee on Saturday 28 September 1987, lauded the mobilization of local manpower and the augmentation of job opportunities to economic participation in the development of national economy and sound economic stability in the area.



His Majesty affirmed the necessity to confront the economic difficulties, the effects of which are reflected in our local economy, through benefiting from the available opportunities in order to upgrade the Jordanian industrial performance.

His Majesty on Saturday, inaugurated the Chamber's Permanent Exhibition of National Industries. The Exhibition contains around 108 samples from various industries, and has become an integral part of the Chamber's activities in the country's economy.

Mr Issam Budeiri, chairman of the Amman Chamber of Industry, addressing the ceremony, stressed that the Chamber, having started in 1962 with less than 100 members, comprises now of 3000 members who pursue various industrial activities.

The Chamber, he said, resides in a building of its own and is being used as a service centre for the various economic activities, especially the ones in the industrial sector. The Chamber, he added, organized the industrial sector, concentrated on the quantitative industries and classified the Jordanian industry into 13 sectors, categorized according to their final products.

According to Mr Budeiri, the establishment of the Chamber in 1962, as an independent body to represent industrialists in Jordan, was an early confirmation of the important role for which the industrial sector was planned to perform in the national economy.

During that year, Jordan

adopted its first economic plan, an off-shoot to the plan was the seven-year programme aimed at expanding the economy infrastructure and setting-up of capital projects.

Since then, the industrial sector's activities recorded successful achievements, exhibited in a present record of 12.5 per cent contribution to the Gross Domestic Product, said Mr Budeiri.

His Majesty King Hussein

the Chamber widened its representational base of industrialists, and extended its service mandate to all the Kingdom's industrial areas.

As part of the Chamber's development activities, is the effective participation in councils, committees and financial institutions. Moreover, the Chamber takes part in most of the conferences, seminars and multilateral committees, which aim to promote the Jordanian endeavours in developing the national economy.

The Chamber's programmes focus on the promotion of local industrial exports, a strategy to support the national economy with hard currencies. They focus, as well, on increasing the local workforce, and improving the trade balance.

Besides the bilateral agreements with Arab and foreign chambers, it participates in specialized shows and exhibitions which aim at creating new markets for the Jordanian industries.

Under the new amendment to the Chamber's Law and Policy,

showed serious effects on the Arab exports; mainly on revenues from oil and raw material exports.

The sharp decrease in oil prices is exhibited in the continuous drop in the total Arab exports of oil. In 1985, total exports reached \$90.4 billion, and \$52.8 billion in 1986; meanwhile, export records in 1980 showed a total of \$213 billion, said the Minister.

He further added, that revenues from Arab exports of raw materials also decreased by 30 per cent in 1986; as compared with figures recorded in 1980. The unstable international market and the effects of the world's crisis, showed direct effects on the development plans and programmes in many of Arab countries, maintained the Minister.

Continued on page 12

Contracts & Contacts

TENDER NO. 165/87. Purchase of metal sheets and welding bars for the Arab Potash Company. Tender documents are available for JD 20. Closing date: 7 November, 1987.

TENDER NO. 62/M/63/L and 64/M/87. Construction of school sections and a workshop for the Ministry of Education. Tender documents are available at the Ministry's engineering affairs directorate for JD 15 each. Closing date: 5 October, 1987.

TENDER NO. 94/87. Construction of a school handicraft centre for the Ministry of Public Works. Tender documents are available at the Ministry's government tenders directorate for JD 25. Closing date: 14 October, 1987.

TENDER NO. 86/87. Construction of an iron structure and a generator base for the Jordan Electricity Authority. Tender documents are available at the JEA's location in Jabal Amman (7th circle). Closing date: 14 October, 1987.

PAVING OF roads at Kafkafa Municipality and Kaf Al-Ma'a Municipality. Tender documents are available at each of the Municipality's commission for JD 10 each. Closing dates: 10 October, 1987.

TENDER NO. 10/87. Supply of 400 barrels of foam for the drilling works directorate at the Water Authority of Jordan. Tender documents are available at the Authority's main location in Jabal Al-Hussein for JD 15. Closing dates: 20 October, 1987.

TENDER NO. 4/A/87. Furnishing of the third class section for the Cultural Palace at Al-Hussein Youths City. Tender documents are available at the City for JD 20. Closing date: 15 October, 1987.

TENDERS NO. 95, 96, 97, 98 and 99/87. Supply of auto spare parts for the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co. Tender documents are available at the Co's location in Jabal Amman (1st circle) for JD 3, 3.5, 5 and 5 consecutively. Closing date: 1 November, 1987.

TENDER NO. 14/87. Supply and fitting of work uniform for the Jordan Cement Factories Co. Tender documents are available at the Co's location in Al-Fhals for JD 5. Closing date: 7 October, 1987.

TENDER NO. 3/87. Renovating the drinking water network at Al-Hussein Youths City for the Ministry of Youths. Tender documents are available at the City for JD 10. Closing date: 3 October, 1987.

TENDER NO. 4/87. Renovating of furniture and fixtures at the Amman greater auditorium for Al-Hussein Youths City. Tender documents are available at the City for JD 20. Closing date: 15 October, 1987.

CONSTRUCTION OF a building for the staff sports and cultural symposium at the Greater Amman Municipality. Tender documents are available at the Municipality's tenders department for JD 120. Closing date: 13 October, 1987.

ELECTRICAL WORKS at an electricity zone for Al Nabl Yousheh station / Salt. Tender documents are available at the Radio and TV Corp's administration directorate. Closing date: 5 October, 1987.

TENDER NO. 66/M/87. Electrical works at computer sites 67/M/87. Installations of a boiler. 68/M/87. Construction of power conversion room. 69/M/87. Maintenance works for the Ministry of education. Tender documents are available at the Ministry's buildings services directorate for JD 5 each. Closing date: 3 October, 1987.

TENDER NO. 75/87. Construction works at the Amman International Exhibition. Tender documents are available from the government tenders directorate at the Ministry of Public Works for JD 30. Closing date: 10 October, 1987.

TENDER NO. CJ/SHL/stationary/87/17. Supply of computer papers (weight: 80 grammes) for the Royal Jordanian Air Force. Tender documents are available at the RAF's purchases committee. Closing date: 4 October, 1987.

TENDERS NO. 1/87. Supply of food seeds and grains, and 2/87. Supply of plastic boxes and bags for the Civil Consumer Corp. Tender documents are available at the Corp's location in Aln Ghazal for JD 2 each. Closing date: 3 October, 1987.

TENDER NO. 3781. Purchase of special equipment for the Jordanian Armed Forces. Tender documents are available at the Royal Maintenance Corps. for JD 50. Closing date: 1 November, 1987.

TENDER NO. CJ/SHL/Benzin/87/9. Supply of airplane fuel (100/130) for the Royal Air Force. Tender documents are available at the Hospital's Supplies and pharmaceutical department. Closing date: 4 October, 1987.

PURCHASE OF hygienic supplies, wood supplies and paints for the University of Jordan's Hospital. Tender documents are available at the Hospital's Supplies and pharmaceutical department. Closing date: 4 October, 1987.

Economic Adhocracy

By Jawad Anani



The Yemeni factor

THE ARAB Yemeni Republic is moving into the twilight gradually. The eyes of businessmen in many quarters of the advanced world are focusing on North Yemen as the next frontier, the market with the fresh promise of profit and brisk deals.

The reason for this sudden Yemen euphoria, is of course the discovery of oil in the region of the ancient "Marab Dam", the most famous on the face of earth, or at least among those who read the holy books. What is funny about this sudden Yemen-ward massive movement is that nobody knows exactly what he is there for, and what kind of business he is after.

There are those who might be misled by Yemen's dirty streets, poor alleys and skinny people. But beware, beyond the dust there is a very smart soil which has produced the best ever merchants in world history.

Who else but the Yemeni merchants who, since time immemorial, carried goods via land and sea, to the remote areas of China, India, and Africa. It was the Yemeni merchants from Hadramout who spread Islam by peaceful means in the distant lands of Indonesia, Malaya the Philippines and even onto China. Trade runs in their blood, and the Yemeni merchant is sober, patient but above all leaps at the opportunity when time comes.

However, due to a long process of impoverishment and ignorance, the Yemenese lost their province. Now, oil is rekindling their spirit, but making them apprehensive nonetheless. They wonder why so many Europeans, Japanese, Americans and others are flocking in. According to one of their leading officials whom I met lately, there is not enough oil to meet all these expectations. Yemen will start its oil exporting this year at an expected rate of 100,000 barrels a day. That figure may not exceed 400,000 in some time to come. The Yemeni official is right. There is no justification for this sudden rise in Yemenese position to top the business target list.

Regardless of the amount of oil there is in Yemen, the country has already embarked on a long trial of westernization, industrialization and development. These smart people have learned a lot from the experience of neighbouring countries. They do not want to reap the bitter fruits of vast growth. They have been waiting too long for a break, and now that they may have it, they do not want to waste. They can afford to take their time.

Yemen is a country which should command our deep respect.

Ministry bans powder milk imports

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr Marwan Al-Hammoud, disclosed that the Upper Agricultural Council effected a three-year-protection ban on imported powder milk. The process, which is restricted to the Ministry of Supply's quota specifications, aims at encouraging dairy factories to rely on the local fresh milk industry.

JEA electrifies rural areas

Sources at the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA), revealed that the Authority will complete the South region electrification project by the end of this year. The project contains 35 villages and housing estates in Karak, Ma'an, Tafelieh and Aqaba, of which 15 villages have already been electrified. The project will benefit 6,000 citizens, and its total costs are estimated at JD 250,000.

Main Spa commences partial operations

Mr Fayez Abu-Algham, director-general of Jordan Tourism and Mineral Waters Co. told Petra, that the Spa's treatment and tourism project will commence actual operations by November, 1987. The project's costs, he said, reached JD 13 million, and it comprises of 142-room hotel, therapeutic clinics, commercial section and a camping site. The project, he added, is very important, for it contains 80 natural springs, and is 58 kilometres south to the Capital Amman.

AMPCJ exports vegetables to Europe

The Agricultural Marketing and Production Co. of Jordan signed agreements with a number of European companies to export 3,600 tonnes of vegetables to Holland, Belgium, Denmark and Switzerland. Mr Ghazi Abu Hassan, the company's director-general, told Petra that the AMPCJ is about to export the same quantity of vegetables to other European markets. The company he said, has succeeded in exporting 450 tonnes of vegetables to nine European countries during the previous season.

VISA International holds meeting

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Europe, Middle East, Africa Region of VISA International will be held at the Amman Plaza Hotel on 30 September to 1 October, 1987.

Continued from page 11

inflation, which was deterred in the past two years, threatens to return, the Minister said.

"All given factors necessitate a collective counter-action to economic situations. We in Jordan, have exerted every effort to avoid any possible effect of the world crisis, and we are still heading in such direction," said the Minister in his speech.

He finally concluded, that regional efforts cannot and should not be an alternative to a must-collective-action to remedy the crisis. He called for wider base of Arab trade and economic relations, and urged for stronger measures to promote joint Arab economic action, and strengthen the Arab base of self-reliance.

Crisis of the Eighties

Mr Mahdi Al-Ubaidi, secretary-general of the Arab Economic Unity Council, addressed participants contending that, this decade holds new prospects in the path of the Arab economy.

He said the world crisis indicators correspond with the special Arab economic crisis, and highlight the following symptoms:

- 1) Negative growth in oil revenues;
- 2) decrease in the rates of economic growth;
- 3) rise of stagnant production capacities;
- 4) unlimited forms of unemployment;
- 5) wide — based deficits in the trade balances;
- 6) accelerations in foreign debts;
- 7) and the increasing phenomenon of food and nutrition scarcities.

Mr Ubaidi argued, that such symptoms threaten the Arab economy and society with a multitude of dangers. It is hoped, he added, that this seminar is prevailed by a clarification and a comprehension of the effects of the world crisis on the Arab economy.

Mr Ubaidi concluded his speech, stressing the fact that "the economic process which involves the requirements of developments and fulfills the population needs, as well as the co-operation with other world economies must take place through pan-Arab co-operation

and co-ordination." This fact, he said, is an Arab requirement in the age of international and regional coalitions.

Causes and Effects

Dr Ramzi Zaki, professor of economics and adviser to the Arab Planning Institute in Kuwait, divided the covert factors which caused the world economic crisis into international causes and local effects.

According to Dr Zaki, on the international scene, the following causes have been observed:

- 1) Collapse of the international monetary system in 1971;
- 2) Abolition of dollar quotations "conversion" into gold denominations;
- 3) increase in the phenomena of internationalization in the ranks of capitalist economies;
- 4) wide gaps among the centre-countries (superpowers) and the circumference-countries (developing countries) because of the inequitable monopolies;
- 5) and the agonizing performance of capitalist systems, in the age of changing economic cost of energy resources.

On the local scene, Dr Zaki attributed the following effects:

- 1) allocation of disorderly investments which led to stumbled industrial profit rates;
- 2) growth of internal deficits and the emergent phenomenon of Debt Economy;
- 3) and the crystallization of unemployment problems which have become infrastructural in character.

The Development Process

Dr Hamid Al-Qaysi, a professor at Yarmouk University, addressed participants explaining the cornerstone of the Arab Development process. He argued that, an Arab development can only be achieved on a national level.

Dr Qaysi, concluded that the comprehensive economic development notion involves all sectors, which should take into consideration "national perspectives" and that our world does not accommodate small coalitions.

By Ahmad Shaker

Studies are underway on the establishment of government-facilitated housing projects for the newly-married, elderly, and handicapped citizens.

The government is considering the possibility of financing land purchase activities carried out for housing purposes.

Satisfactory amounts of natural gas have been discovered near the Iraqi borders estimated at a daily 20 million cubic feet of a thermal volume equivalent to 450 tonnes of fuel oil.

The planned implementation rate of the five-year development plan's 118 projects until 31 March 1987 has totalled 19.6 per cent, while the actual implementation rate has amounted to only 10 per cent, and nothing has yet been performed in the fields of social development, higher education, culture, and commerce.

The public and private sectors are to participate in the establishment of a shareholding corporation specialized in saving job opportunities in the Arab countries for Jordanian nationals.

New recruitments for ministries and government departments' positions will be stalled as from 1 November except for the Health and Education ministries.

The Ministry of Health has asked all community colleges and industrial and commercial institutions to recruit full-time physicians as part of the country's measures aiming to curb physicians' unemployment.

A DM 17 million loan is to be granted by West Germany for promoting the services of the Cities and Villages Development Bank in Jordan.

Minister of Planning Dr Taher Kanan will leave for London next month as the head of a delegation to hold talks regarding the presentation and treatment of water resources for drinking and irrigation purposes especially at King Talal Dam and the Eastern Ghor Canal.

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EURO DEPOSITS RATES

	US\$	DM	FF	SF	Dls	Yen	Sterling Pound
1 M	7 5/8	3 15/16	7 13/16	3 5/8	5 1/4	10 3/4	10 1/8
2 M	7 3/4	4.00	7 15/16	3 3/4	5 3/8	11 3/4	10 3/16
3 M	8 3/16	4 1/2	8 5/16	4 5/16	5 9/16	12.00	10 5/16
6 M	8 3/8	4 5/8	8 11/16	4 5/16	5 5/8	12 1/2	10 7/16
9 M	8 5/8	4 5/8	8 15/16	4 5/16	5 5/8	12 3/4	10 9/16
12 M	8 13/16	4 11/16	9 3/16	4 5/16	5 3/4	13.00	10 5/8
2 Years	9 3/8	5.0					
3 Years	9 5/8	5 1/4					
4 Years	9 7/8	5 5/8					
5 Years	10	5 7/8					

Source: Finance and Credit Corporation - Amman, Jordan

GOLD IN JORDAN

AMMAN (Star) — Prices on Wednesday 30 September 1987 were as follows:

18 ct. JD 3,900 per gramme	\$	.348	.350
21 ct. JD 4,400 per gramme	£	.576	.571
24 ct. JD 5,350 per gramme	DM	.1785	.1905
One kilogramme (9999) JD \$100,000	SF	.228	.228
Once... JD 186,500	Yen	.238	.240
Gold Starlin	FF	.067	.075
(Eight grammes)..... JD 63,500	Dfl.	.168	.170
(Central Bank)			
Rashed Poud			
(Seven grammes)..... JD 32,000			

Source: Youelf Abu Sara Jewellers, Amman.

EXCHANGE RATES

	buy	sell	buy	sell
LI(1000)	.282	.2675		
BLF	.0915	.0925		
KD	1.22	1.24		
SR	.092	.093		
OR	.901	.907		
EGP	.1565	.158		
UAED	.94	.95		
SRL	.105	.11		

Source: Finance and Credit Corporation - Amman, Jordan

Certificates of Deposits (£ CDS)

AMMAN (Star) — Sterling bid rates are as follows:

1M, 10.0825 - 2M, 10.125 - 3M, 10.1875 - 4M, 10.25 - 5M, 10.3125 - 6M, 10.375 - 7M, 10.4375 - 8M, 10.5 - 9M, 10.5625 - 10M, 10.625 - 11M, 10.6875 - 12M, 10.75

Euro-Sterling: 1M, 10.125 - 2M, 10.1875 - 3M, 10.375 - 4M, 10.5 - 5M, 10.625 - 6M, 10.75 - 7M, 10.875 - 8M, 11 - 9M, 11.125 - 10M, 11.25 - 11M, 11.375 - 12M, 11.5

Source: Finance and Credit Corporation - Amman

Financial Market Monthly Report

AMMAN (Star) — During August 1987, an across-the-board increase was observed at the AMF, as compared with August in 1986, the differential increases in total handled shares, trading volume and number of contracts were recorded at 205 per cent, 164 per cent and 68 per cent consecutively.

The total handled shares at both markets (stock and over-the-counter) reached 4,533,999 shares, with a market value of JD 5,879,781, effected through 4882 contracts on the stockfloor. At the stock market, handling movement during August 1987 witnessed moderate activities, as exhibited in total handled shares reaching 4,316,299, at a market value of JD 5,889,792, effected through 4,703 contracts.

According to statistics published for August 1987, the number of companies, whose shares were traded at the AMF were 60 public shareholding companies. As per sector, 24 banks and financial institutions, 12 insurance companies, 11 service companies and 33 industrial establishments.

During August 1987, 18 business days were observed to have recorded active handling at an average handling per day reaching 239,794 shares, with an average daily volume of JD 327,211 effected through an average of 262 contracts per day.

In relation to share prices during August 1987, the Share Price Index recorded a slight decrease of 0.6 point, a rate of 0.54 per cent as compared with the closing prices at the end of July 1987.

At the parallel market, total handled shares reached 217,710 shares, at a market value of JD 89,989, effected through 159 contracts. As regards promotion bonds, they totalled 1,872 bonds during August 1987, at a market value of JD 18,870.

According to the report, the Irbid District Electricity Co's shares were traded through an extraordinary handling at less than a unit. Moreover, the General Investments Co, merged with the Jordan Beer Co, with a new capital of JD 3,400,703. The merger's shares were traded at the stock market on 29 July 1987, at a bid "opening" price of Fils 0.810.

Handling by sector during August, was recorded according to the following analysis:

- Number of Handled shares:
- Banks, 37 per cent; Industries: 56 per cent;
- Services, 4 per cent; Insurance: 3 per cent.
- Trading volume:
- Banks, 40 per cent; Industries: 53 per cent;
- Services, 2 per cent; Insurance: 5 per cent.

- Number of Contracts:
- Banks, 23 per cent; Industries: 70 per cent;
- Services 4 per cent; Insurance: 3 per cent.

Dollar steady, gold down

LONDON (AP) — The US dollar steadied in moderately active European trading early Wednesday. Gold bullion fell in Europe after rising in Hong Kong.

After soaring to six-week highs on Tuesday, the dollar turned fixed in Europe and fluctuated within a narrow range during the first hours to trading Wednesday.

Nevertheless, traders said market sentiments for the dollar remained favourable following the weakened meeting in Washington of finance chiefs from the United States and six other industrialized nations.

Midmorning dollar rates in Europe compared with late Tuesday:

- 1.8380 West German Marks, up from 1.8370.
- 1.5268 Swiss Francs, down from 1.5295.
- 8.1175 French Francs, down from 8.1310.
- 2.0675 Dutch Guilders, down from 2.0710.
- 1,325.90 Italian Lire, down from 1,326.87.
- 1.3120 Canadian Dollars, up from 1.3115.

The British Pound fell to \$1.0297 from \$1.0330. The dollar advanced in Tokyo for a seventh consecutive session, closing at 148.35 Japanese yen, up from 146.05 yen in later London trading Wednesday, the dollar slipped back to 146.05 yen.

London's main bullion houses fixed a recommended gold price at midmorning of \$459.15 a troy ounce, down from \$459.50 late Tuesday.

Gold traded at a bid of \$458.90 in Zurich, down from \$460.

Earlier Wednesday, the metal closed in Hong Kong at a bid of \$460.03, up from \$458.95.

Silver bullion was quoted in London at a bid of \$7.65 a troy ounce, up from \$7.59.

Stable market, prices up

By Saif El-Sherif
Star Financial Market Analyst

MARKET ACTIVITIES steadied on the same high level of last. The industrial sector remains in the lead, covering 65 per cent of the overall market value.

The National Steel Co. is the number one company in the market. This company has achieved the following figures and percentages this week: 195,405 shares were handled (16.3 per cent), 393 contracts were signed (21.7 per cent), and JD 562,531 were handled (25.8 per cent of the total market value.)

The Insurance Sector has also achieved a progressive record for the second week. The Jordan-French Insurance Co. was on top of all insurance companies, and the second among the 62 companies whose shares were handled this week.

There was a general improvement on share prices, as it was indicated by Ad-Dustour and The Jerusalem Star weekly average, which has been calculated, this week.

This week, 1,193,417 shares were handled, and the total market value came to JD 2,177,224.

The number of contracts signed, this week were 1808 contracts, and the daily average came to JD 345,444.

The shares of 62 companies were traded, classified according to sector as follows: 18 banks, 8 insurance companies, 8 services, and 28 industrial companies.

26 Companies gained (11 banks, 3 insurances, 2 services, and 10 industrial companies).

Below are some companies whose share prices gained:

- 1- Arab Finance Corporation closing at JD 1.590 up from JD 1.320
- 2- Jordan French Insurance Co. closing at JD 6.220 up from JD 6.080
- 3- Dar Al-Sh'ab Newspaper closing at JD 0.420 up from JD 0.390
- 4- The Jordan Tanning Co. closing at JD 2.100 up from JD 2.050

25 companies lost (5 banks, 3 insurances, 5 services, and 12 industrial companies)

- 1- Arab Bank closing at JD 119.750 down from JD 121.000
- 2- Jordan Insurance Co. closing at JD 10.500 down from JD 10.800
- 3- The Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Co. closing at JD 2.130 down from JD 2.190

11 Companies had no change in their share values (2 banks, 2 insurances, 1 services, and 6 industrial companies).

- Those include:
1. Jordan-Kuwait Bank JD 1.690
 2. Arab Life & Accident Insurance Co. JD 0.830
 - 3- Jordan Cement Factories Co. JD 0.980

Trading in the regular market was distributed among sectors according to the following percentages:

Sectors	Market share	Last week's share
Banks	20.9%	13.9%
Industries	64.3%	69.8%
Services	5.1%	1.4%
Insurance	14.3%	14.8%

Prominent firms whose shares were traded by sector:

A- Banks (out of 18 traded)	Share of sector	Share of market
1- Arab Finance Corporation	26.2%	6.4%
2- Arab Bank	19.4%	4%
3- Jordan Finance House	19.2%	3.9%
B- Insurance (out of 8 traded)		
1- Jordan French Insurance Co.	91%	13%
C- Services (out of 8 traded)		
1- Jordan Electric Power Co.	62.5%	0.02%
D- Industrials (out of 28 traded)		
1- National Steel Co.	40.1%	25.8%
2- Jordan Spinning & Weaving Co.	11%	7.1%
3- Arab Aluminium Co.	10.5%	6.7%
4- Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	8.1%	5.8%

WEEKLY AVERAGE

Date	Bank	Insurance	Services	Industries	Average
22-8	+0.06%	+1.93%	-0.41%	-0.16%	+ZERO
23-8	+0.34%	+0.31	ZERO	+0.51%	+0.42%
26-8	+0.18%	+1.32%	-0.4%	+0.26%	+0.31%
27-8	+1.14%	+0.19%	+1.91%	-0.26%	+0.50%
28-8	+0.79%	-2.19%	ZERO	-0.65%	-0.30%
Total					+0.83%

AQABA: Jordan's charm and spirit

AQABA (Star) — Although travellers have been drawn to Aqaba for thousands of years, it is, nevertheless, a relatively undiscovered tourist destination. Yet Aqaba combines the climate and coral seas of the tropics with the travel convenience of the Mediterranean making it a unique attraction to the modern tourist.

The Jordanian Government, through the Aqaba Region Authority (ARA), recognizes this potential and is actively promoting the creation of a National Jordanian Tourist Resort on Aqaba's unspoiled South Coast.

This following analysis describes the ARA's Master Plan for the South Coast which has been prepared specifically to promote and direct the proposed development. The Master Plan is based upon detailed research and field investigation — Tourism Marketing, Marine Environment, Site Analysis, for example, and, as such, the proposals are soundly based and development can now proceed with confidence.

The Existing Town of Aqaba

The existing town is historically located at the head of the Gulf of Aqaba and combines an expanding commercial activity side by side with an established tourist industry. The town is around 7 kilometres from the proposed South Coast Tourist Area.

Aqaba has an attractive location and climate, safe swimming facilities, a wealth of marine life and a fascinating desert hinterland. These have combined to make Aqaba a tourist centre for both foreign and local visitors.

There are over 2000 hotel beds in the town half of which are in classified hotels. Hotel standards in the town are limited by space restrictions. Over 100,000 tourists visit Aqaba each year, more than half of whom are foreigners. The international tourists come mainly from Europe and visit Aqaba as part of a much larger Middle East tourist package, facilitated by Aqaba's International Airport.

The tourist trade in town would benefit greatly by improvements in accommodation, recreation and entertainment facilities, but it is better to locate these large scale space users in the undeveloped lands on the South Coast. The main objective of developing the South Coast as a tourist area is to strengthen and broaden Aqaba's development appeal as a holiday centre. Consequently the South Coast Tourist Area will not duplicate facilities already existing or planned for the beach areas in Aqaba Town, but offer additional and complementary facilities.

The broad strategy is therefore to create an entirely different atmosphere for the area based on less formal recreational activities requiring greater areas of open space set within a dramatic natural environment.

The Development Potential of the South Coast

The South Coast of Aqaba has considerable physical potential to be developed as a tourist resort for both the national and international markets. Its location, at the most northerly part of the Red Sea, enjoys a unique climate, sufficient to promote Aqaba as an all-year-round resort. The heat of the summer is modified by the prevailing cool northerly breeze. The relatively high stable temperatures of the sea are attractive to winter swimming. The Gulf, with its li-



Aqaba, charm of the South

limited tides, waves and currents is noted for its safe swimming.

The coral reefs, the most northerly in the world, extend through the South Coast and provide a unique tourist attraction relatively close to the target markets of Europe. The sandy beaches extend for over 8 kilometres in length and are virtually undeveloped, as is the hinterland which contains large areas of elevated wadi which are ideally suited for tourist developments. The surrounding mountain scenery offers a dramatic visual backdrop to the deep blue of the sea.

The natural features of the South Coast are supplemented by the famous inland attractions of Petra and Wadi Rum. Aqaba is convenient for visiting the lands of the Bible and Ancient Egypt. In terms of supporting infrastructure, the South Coast is well served, with the existing Coast Road and electricity, telephone and water services supplied. Transportation links to Amman will be improved with the introduction of shuttle air-services and the opening of the Dead Sea highway.

Market studies show that there is a potential for developing holiday homes which are not available in Aqaba at the present time. The Jordanian middle income class would be given the opportunity to purchase villas, chalets, apartments etc., as an appreciating asset. It is estimated that 20,000 households in Jordan currently possess sufficient purchasing power to afford a holiday home. This potential market is greatly expanded if neighbouring countries are also included.

In terms of the international tourist trade, this is an ever growing market and Aqaba has the potential, provided the right target market is identified and catered for properly. Aqaba would be promoted for the 'sun, sea, sand and culture' holiday business, offering inclusive tours which would aim at extending stays in Aqaba up to around 1 week, as opposed to the

existing average stay of 2-3 nights. This would require a total of 2000 beds split into major commercial tourist villages and hotels of around 250-300 beds, all designed to international standards. Tourists would increase up to around 125-150,000 visitors per year, and virtually all would fly direct to Aqaba airport.

The development of the South Coast would be "accommodation led" — that is, the immediate priority is to construct the first hotels and chalets, after which amusements and recreation facilities would be developed. These attractions would complement the attractiveness of the natural environment and would encourage day visitors from Aqaba and weekend visitors from Amman.

This objective is met in a number of ways; for example, the best coral formations are formally designated as 'coral reserves' and protected from uncontrolled human activity. In addition, the Master Plan protects the beaches from development by locating the majority of buildings in the inland wadi areas.

For promotion purposes, it is important that the tourist resort has an attractive and clearly identifiable visual image which can be used for marketing purposes both in Jordan and internationally. This is achieved by the careful design of landmarks, buildings and landscaping.

The Master Plan contains a variety of proposals for domestic accommodation, international hotels, and special attractions.

Projects

Described below in greater detail are the projects proposed by the ARA in the Master Plan. Also described are the possible methods of implementation involving either the private sector, the public sector or a combination of both. As it is the ARA policy to involve the private sector as far as possible in all projects, whether as

financier, developer, or operator, the precise method of implementation is open to discussion and negotiation.

Organizations interested in participating in any project contained in the South Coast development programme, should review the proposals and, if necessary, put forward alternative.

Public Beaches

The four public beaches will initially be the responsibility of the ARA, which will finance and construct the public facilities — car parks, toilets, for example.

The management and operating of the public beaches could be contracted out to the private sector and each public beach has a concession site — usually a swimming pool with restaurant facilities — included in it specifically for this purpose.

The lease conditions would be based on the principles of the private sector to design, finance and construct the commercial elements and also to manage/operate the public facilities.

Domestic Accommodation

The range of different types of accommodation proposed in the Master Plan — from luxury villas to camping — will be promoted by the ARA in a variety of ways, to suit the specific needs of each project.

Gabooa Tourist Village

Gabooa Tourist Village is located on a magnificent elevated wadi, giving extensive views over the Gulf of Aqaba. The site area is around 54 hectares and the project will contain 2 and 3 bedroom chalets. To maintain sea views from all properties, densities should be moderate with plot sizes around 450-800 square metres, resulting in a total development of around 400-500 dwellings. Residents will have full use of the beaches in the adjacent International Tourist Camp.

The ARA is considering selling the land to developers either as a

single unit or possibly, in smaller units of around 10 hectares. Developers will design, construct and then sell the complete chalets, including land title, to the public.

Park Villas

Located in the centre of the tourist resort, the Park Villas occupy three secluded sites considered to be extremely suitable for prestige developments. The three sites total around 51 hectares and, with large plots of 1-1500 square metres, could be developed to accommodate up to 300 villas.

The ARA proposes that the plots should be developed by individual owners, who would buy the land direct from the ARA. To encourage early implementation, the ARA would provide all infrastructure and sell the plots as fully serviced. Alternatively, the private sector could be involved in financing, constructing and servicing of plots.

Royal Diving Centre and Village

The Diving Centre is now constructed, equipped and staffed, and offers underwater training courses to the highest international standards. The Centre also offers facilities for diving and snorkelling. The Centre is intended for use by Jordanian education youth groups and also for more specialized use by international diving clubs.

The village occupies a site of over 5.5 hectares, and would offer simple, hostel accommodation. To begin the residential part of the project, the ARA would design and finance a limited number of chalet hostels, but to be operated by private franchise. The remaining chalet hostels would be financed and operated by the private sector, with land leased from the ARA.

Beach Club & Village

This project is conceived as a 'country club', offering recreational and residential facilities to its members. It will occupy the most southern site in the resort, with the club complex occupying a prime beach location and club village located in the wadi opposite.

The club complex site is around 8.5 hectares and would contain the club house, with restaurant, games rooms and lounges and with surrounding swimming pools, tennis, squash and basketball courts. The existing stone faced apartment building could be used as administrative offices. The club village site occupies around 15 hectares.

The ARA will lease the site to a developer or operator, whereby the developer will design, construct and operate the club.

International Tourist Camp

The existing camp occupies a magnificent site of 40 hectares with a beach frontage of over one kilometre and which has already been laid out by the ARA with access roads, toilet and shower blocks, beach shades and landscaping.

The ARA proposes to lease the site to a developer or tour operator to complete the development of the site with shops, restaurants, recreational facilities and chalets and to operate the site and its facilities, probably for international inclusive tours.

National Youth Camp

The ARA will allocate the site to the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Youth whereby the two ministries will develop the site. The purpose is to provide dormitory and camping type accommodation, supported by all necessary recreational and social facilities. The site is around 8 hectares and located to the east of the coast.

Continued on page 15

Continued from page 14

adjacent to the water park swimming centre and convenient for Public Beach 2.

Initially a public beach, the private sector will be involved at a later date in the operation of the camp through franchise.

Hotel

A hotel is proposed for the present site at the entrance roundabout to the resort. The site, of around one hectare, has excellent views and is conveniently located to Public Beach one and extensive facilities. The hotel could be convenient for passing trade to Saudi Arabia as well as for general holiday use. The hotel would contain around 70 rooms and be supported by the usual range of facilities — coffee shop, lounge, swimming pool, for example. In addition, the hotel would accommodate the South Coast Tourist Information Office. The ARA will lease the site to a developer or operator.

International Accommodation

The Master Plan proposes that two groups of international hotels should be promoted as key elements within the development programme. Special efforts should be made to attract the right types of developer or operators, the right size of project, and at the right time.

International Hotel Group one

A prime site of around 15 hectares is allocated on the beaches of 'big bay' and a further five hectares to the east of the coast road. The site has a beach frontage of around 800 metres. The Master Plan proposes that this site is developed as a hotel complex, containing a total of around 1000 beds. The complex would consist of a major tourist hotel containing 600 beds and two tourist villages each containing 250 beds.

The architectural form and layout of the complex is proposed in the Master Plan. The tourist hotel would be 3 to 4 storeys in height and designed to a theme, possibly an 'Arabian Fort'. The fort would visually dominate the entire big bay area, towering over the surrounding palm trees and giving panoramic views over the Gulf of Aqaba with its magnificent sunsets.

The ARA regards this as a priority project and wishes development to start urgently, preferably with the construction of the fort hotel and hopefully in conjunction with one or both of the Tourist Villages.

In view of the large investment involved, it is expected that groups of companies would combine to provide all necessary services — finance, design, construction, hotel and tour operation. International Hotels Group two.

Also located on 'big bay', the second group of international hotels would also be planned to accommodate a total of 1000 beds.

The beach site has an area of around 5 hectares and a sea frontage of 800 metres. A large inland site of 18 hectares is also allocated for the hotels. It is expected that up to three or four hotels will form the group and that they will take the form of holiday villages, although this is not essential. However the palm plantation concept will dominate the beach development.

The ARA programmes this project later than International Hotels Group one, in order to concentrate resources in one development. However, if developer/operators require, project programmes can be varied accordingly.

South Coast Park

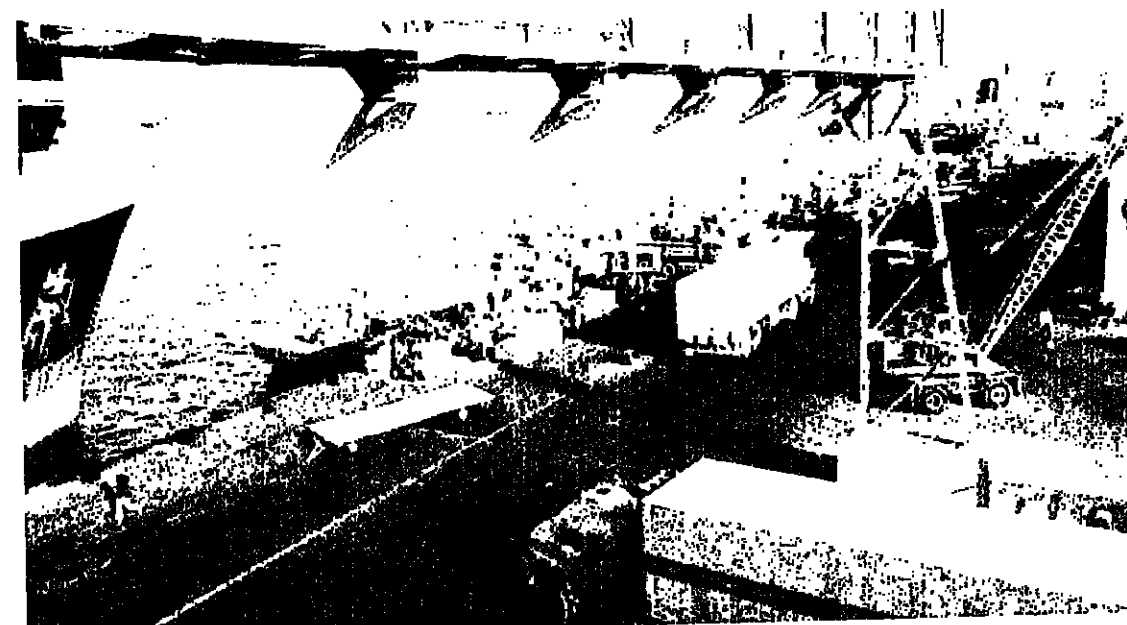
A large area of over 30 hectares is allocated to the South Coast Park. The site is attractive and strategically placed between the International Hotel Groups one to the west and the Park Villas to the east. The park is considered one of the important ingredients in the development strategy for the tourist resort and a vital element in the creation of an overall image for the south coast.

The park will be used for large area land based activities, such as a golf course and horse riding, both of which would be eagerly used by international tourists and villa residents. The ARA would lease the land either to an independent developer or operator or include it within the lease for the international hotels.

South Coast Centre

The tourist resort service and administrative Centre is located centrally on a 1.5 hectares site to the east of the coast road. The centre would contain a petrol service station, supermarket, 5-10 small shops, takeaway cafe, south coast administrative and estate offices, health clinic, police station, post office and a mosque.

It is proposed that the ARA will service all plots with infrastructure and leave the commercial elements to a single developer for finance, construction and management.



Heavy unloading activities on the berth of Aqaba Port

The Ports Corp: A new era of modernization

AMMAN (Star) — Aqaba's unique importance, as a vital commercial city, exhibits Jordan's concerns in developing its port. The Port, a centre which combines tourism and industry side by side, is being looked upon as the backbone of the Jordanian economy in later years to come.

In an interview with Ad-Dustour daily, Mr Eid Al-Fayez, the general director of the Port Corporation, explains the recent developments at Aqaba Port and the new plans designed by the Corp. for future developments.

Administrative reforms

After forty years, the Ports Corp. planned for the year 1987, to be a year of structural development — which witnessed a new formation of a corporate structure and a comprehensive organizational foundation.

According to the new designed system, a decentralized decision-making and authority — delegating processes have become effective. The result of which is a group of ten major directorates which have been directly linked with general directorates. Eventually, the Ports Corp. intends to stress the regionality of Aqaba Port services, and to upgrade the level of administrative efficiency in delivering these services.

Clearance facilities

Since March of this year, the large staff complex, which was set-up by the Corp. aimed at easing the routine procedures involved in clearing goods. The complex contained 110 employees, who are situated in an assembly fashion, to make the clearance of paperwork checks easy and centralized.

The Corp.'s Lighthouse, is in the stage of completion, and will be a model monument to guide ships. Moreover, a shuttle-bus has been used at the Port's platform for internal transportation. A local bank has opened a branch at Aqaba Port, to provide the necessary banking facilities inside the Corp's location.

New perspectives

The Ports Corp. is studying a plan to convert Aqaba Port to a central station for the reception and distribution of other countries' goods. According to the plan, awaiting implementation in 1988, all incoming goods to other neighbouring ports (other than Iraq) would be unloaded at Aqaba, and then redistributed to their destinations by small vessels.

To provide competitive tariffs and flexible duties, the Port Corp. effected a decrease on tariffs —

containers by 20 per cent, vegetables by 25 per cent and coolers by 55 per cent. With this new tariff policy, the Corp. aims at encouraging the movements of exports and imports through Aqaba.

The Marine Trading Centre

The centre was established by the Corp. to provide training for its staff. Various programmes are being used at centre, such as the UN programmes and UNCTAD specialized programmes; paramount of which is the "container handling" programme.

The Corp. is recruiting a number of Yemenese personnel, as part of the co-operation agreement between Aqaba Port and Aden port authorities.

The Corp.'s total work force exceeds 5000 workers, and the Corp. reported current expenditures of about JD 8 million, allocated to the various sectors of the

local market. The Corp. is co-operating with the Aqaba Municipality for the development of utilities, and roads leading to the Port.

Future plans

In part, the Corp. has allocated a proportion of its next year's budget for the development of the Port's berths to handle the increasing quantity of goods every year. This year, the Corp. reported an increase of 18 per cent over last year's rate of exports and imports through Aqaba port. It hopes, therefore, to increase the volume of imports and exports for the coming years.

● Feature article presented by Fathi Al-Arkan and Ahmad Al-Khamash in Ad-Dustour daily, and published on 22 September 1987.

Recent agreements at the Ports Corp.

AMMAN (Star) — The Ports Corp. signed, last week, eight agreements with local companies for the implementation of various projects, at an estimated cost of JD 1,800,000.

The agreements contained the following: 1) The establishment of a coastal communication station at the South Coast, at an estimated cost of JD 138,000; 2) reclamation of 50,000 square metres of land, adjacent to the containers' berth, at a cost of JD 274,000; 3) construction of a safety wall for the chemical materials zone, and adjacent to the hazardous materials, at a cost of JD 30,000; 4) Construction of three 7,500-square metres hangars, topped with metals, open-sided and steel-structured, at a cost of JD

225,000; 5) Construction of two steel-structured and closed hangars, with an area of 4,000 square metres, at a cost of JD 283,000; 6) testing of under-sea soil, and their bearing power for goods unloaded on the berth. The estimated cost is about JD 57,805; 7) painting of facades for the Residential Corp. at a cost of JD 17,000; 8) and the designs and specifications for the establishment of offices and utilities, with an area of 220 square metres, at a cost of JD 5,000.

The above agreements were signed by Mr Eid Al-Fayez, representing the Ports Corp. and representatives of the local firms, on Tuesday 22 September 1987.



View of Aqaba's South Coast



The large staff complex in Aqaba

The Jerusalem Star

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Summit of summits

JORDAN HAS begun preparations for the 8 November emergency Arab Summit which will take place in Amman. His Majesty King Hussein has begun an Arab countries' tour which took him to Oman, UAE, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. We expect more shuttle tours by King Hussein and a number of senior Jordanian officials to other Arab countries in the near future so as to facilitate all possibilities for a successful summit.

The role Jordan has been and will continue to play on the pan-Arab arena is bearing fruit today. The task of bringing the Arab leaders together to discuss challenges facing various regions of the vast Arab lands is not an easy mission. In fact, as we have seen in the last two weeks, the decision to hold the much-delayed summit was an outcome of years of deliberations among Arab states with Jordan playing a pivotal role. It is no wonder then that it was not Jordan that suggested the time and the place for the upcoming summit, but the majority of Arab representatives in appreciation and respect for Jordan's efforts on the thorny road of Arab unity and integration.

Although there are no specific topics on the summit's open agenda, the Gulf war will feature prominently in the Leaders' discussions. But as King Fahd of Saudi Arabia said, one cannot discuss the Gulf war and not talk about other conflicts like Lebanon and Palestine. And although the nature of each problem is different from the other, the remedies are surely the same. The main theme, which Jordan, King and country, have always upheld is the survival of Arab integration and unity.

If such a theme was looked upon with little interest or disbelief in the last few years at a time when regional polarization and state isolationism flourished — now is the proper moment to fully understand the theme's deep connotations and objectives.

Neither wealth nor other illusions of power have prevented the external enemies from threatening the very existence of some Arab countries. In retrospect, many are now looking with sorrow at the bygone days when the Arab League stood for inter-Arab unity and co-operation in the fields of defence, economy, and culture.

The challenges the Arab World faces today are ones which threaten the very nature of Arab order and its arrays of political systems. In addition, it is now clear that none of the bloody conflicts taking place in the Arab world is limited to individual states. Each and every conflict threatens every Arab country no matter how far it is from the battle field. This is the lesson which we are learning today, and perhaps this very fact is the one which will resurrect the old ambitions of unity and solidarity among the Arabs.

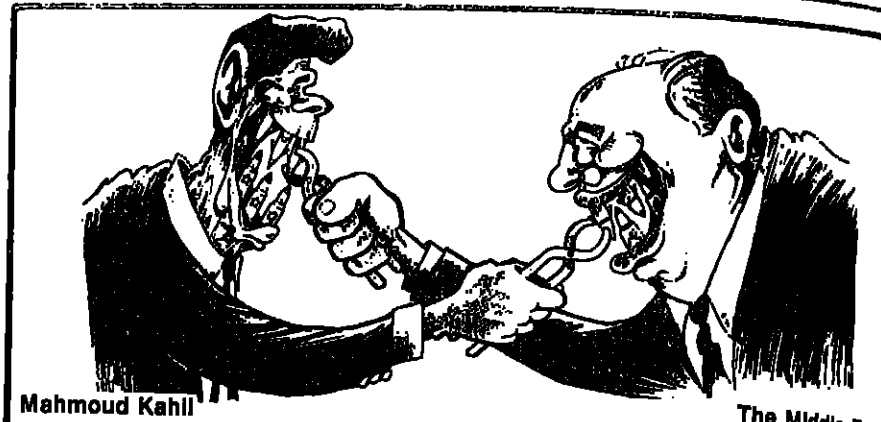
A crucial trip

US SECRETARY of State George Shultz's forthcoming trip to the Middle East will take place at a very crucial juncture of Middle East history when the region stands at a crossroad of either continued instability caused by the absence of peace or the uncertain prospects of reaching a just settlement at an international conference. His trip, which reportedly will include visits to Israel, Egypt and Jordan, is supposed, above anything else, to break the stalemate in the region's peace process, which has been the result of Israel's adamant refusal of the proposed international conference and the US administration's indecisiveness towards the issue.

Needless to say, Mr Shultz must devote his greatest effort to changing Israel's position because it is the party which is primarily responsible for the current dangerous stalemate. We sincerely hope that the secretary of state's trip to Israel will include serious negotiations, such conference which constitutes at present and in the foreseeable future, the sole way to achieve a lasting settlement acceptable to all parties involved in the conflict.

Israel's officials, particularly Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, will certainly try hard to dissuade Mr Shultz from pursuing any endeavour towards convening the international conference, arguing instead in favour of direct negotiations which in the final analysis amount to outright rejection of the peace efforts. We are certain that if the historic chance of negotiating peace in the Middle East through the proposed conference was lost, the region would plunge again into an appalling state of chaos and confusion while extremists gain the upper hand and mount their destructive campaigns from a position of strength.

Another important fact that must be borne in mind is that if peace is not reached within the remaining period of President Reagan's second term, the region will witness many more years of continuing conflict which can make a settlement much harder to achieve. This fact alone demonstrates the paramount importance of Mr Shultz's trip whose outcome will probably decide whether peace can be attainable through serious American efforts, or not driving the region into an abyss of extremism and increasing violence.



Could a missile treaty free the world from nuclear threat?

By Dana Adams Schmidt
Star Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — The agreement reached by the United States and Soviet foreign ministers to seek a treaty to abolish intermediate and short-range nuclear weapons was important for several reasons.

First, it was a big step towards restoring good relations between the United States and the Soviet Union heralding a new era of détente.



View from the US

Second, it was vital in its strategic consequences between the two superpowers.

Third — and this is surely the most important of all, the two officials agreed that after this agreement is signed and ratified the United States and the USSR will seek a 50 per cent cut in their long-range nuclear missiles. And that, could lead eventually to other reductions and to freeing the world of the fear that war between the superpowers could, if it broke out, devastate earth.

Certainly, US Secretary of State George Shultz, who take some credit, but the renown should go to Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, or rather the government of Mikhail Gorbachev, for making such an agreement possible by backing away from previous Soviet insistence that the United States give up its SDI (Strategic Defence Initiative) project, a network of lasers and beams in space that would, if ever completed, be able to intercept Soviet missiles.

While still apparently anxious that the US should never actually deploy such a system, the Russians have eased their opposition to research in this arcane sphere of military science.

Why did Gorbachev make this a feature of "glasnost"? Probably because he needs achievements in the foreign field which include expanded relations with the United States to ease tensions that have been set up by his internal reforms. And he was able to do so by managing to get rid of the Defence Minister, Sergei Sokolov, and replacing him with the more pliable Dmitri Yazov.

Undoubtedly, Reagan jumped at the opportunity to achieve something to offset the damage of the Iran-Contra affair. Moreover, reconciliation, albeit relative, with what he once called "the evil empire," would be a fine monument to the Reagan administration.

At one time, I believe, Reagan toyed with the idea of making peace in the Middle East his everlasting monument. But Muslim Fundamentalists and AIPAC, felled his scheme. Basically, he could not face the necessity of putting real pressure on Israel to make it accept the idea of an international conference on the Arab-Israeli problem.

There is, of course, a possibility that "glasnost" could lead to evolution in Soviet relations with the Arabs and the Israelis.

Gorbachev has been toying with the restoration of diplomatic relations with Iraq, and an increased flow of Jewish emigrants from the Soviet Union to Israel could result. He has allowed some prominent "refuseniks" to leave, but the total number of emigrants is scarcely one tenth of that reached during the Brezhnev regime.

This prospect can scarcely please the Arabs, but then the Soviet Union, lacking the United States' special relationship with the Jewish community, is perhaps in a better position than the United States to mediate between Jews and Arabs if it should choose this course. And who knows what future adventures his imagination may conjure. Right now, he seems anxious to maintain even-handedness between the Arabs and Israel, and between Iraqis and Iranians.

There is reason to believe that Gorbachev would like to complete the intermediate and small missiles treaty during the Reagan administration, on the grounds that a Democratic successor would be more difficult to deal with. In any case, the credit Reagan seems to be reaping will redound to the advantage of the Republicans in the next election.

Europeans are the ones who should rejoice at the prospect of withdrawal of intermediate missiles because these missiles would pulverize European cities in time of war. However, French and West Germans are of course also worried that withdrawal of missiles could be a first step towards withdrawal of the United States from the allied defence scheme we call NATO.

Of course, the treaty prospect Shultz and Shevardnadze cooked up in 10.6 hours still has a long way to go. Shultz is supposed to fly to Moscow for another round in October, and Gorbachev is scheduled to come to Washington for a summit in November. Reagan is said to be looking forward to that, planning a tour for the Russia, including a Thanksgiving day party at his California mountain ranch, finally Reagan would go to Moscow next March for the signing.

Some people, including Republicans, are, however, negative as can be about what the administration is doing. They don't trust the Soviets and suspect that Reagan is being sucked into a trap. They point to a number of unresolved issues:

One, is the question of how fast the missiles will be removed. The Russians say five years, the Americans say three. Then, there's the problem of inspection, important for every stage of arms control, particularly for limiting testing of nuclear warheads. The Soviets suggest seismic observations would be enough to determine that their explosives did not exceed the limit; the Americans, on the other hand, want measuring cables in the ground in the immediate vicinity of the explosions. And there is the ultimate question of limiting conventional forces.

After all, what was the original calculation behind American development of nuclear force? It was that the Russians would always have superiority in manpower and conventional weapons facing Western Europe and that the only ultimate defence against them would be the deployment of American nuclear missiles. If nuclear weapons are to be reduced, something must be done about Soviet conventional superiority, a not welcomed proposition in Moscow. Former Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig said that he opposed the intermediate missile accord "because it makes conventional war in Europe more likely."

All these caveats notwithstanding, probability is that an agreement will be concluded. Then the world can breathe easier.

A letter from the UN:

The US, Iraq, Iran: policy or happenstance?

By Carrie Nelle Moye

NEW YORK — There are those who have called the United States' actions in the Gulf as erratic, incoherent and amateurish. This is especially in Western Europe, because that is a direct result of the absence of a well-defined policy regarding the current actions and reactions of the United States vis-a-vis Iran and its Arab neighbours.

The belief in erratic American behaviour in the Gulf originated in the arms-for-hostages deal which was carried out secretly at a time when US rhetoric against Iran and its agents was at its peak. Then followed the dragging of Kuwaiti ships and the deployment of a US armada in the Gulf to support Iran, following Iraq's attack of the USS Stark and the consequent tragic loss of life.

The US administration continues its attempts to explain the reasoning behind these actions to both foe and friend, abroad and at home, with limited success. It appears that the US administration is trying to hold two water melons in one hand, as a popular Middle Eastern proverb goes.

On examination, however, this present state of affairs is reflective of long-term US policy and is not an accidental confusion resulting from incompetence on the part of the US administration, despite occasional tactical errors in implementing a policy which was valid before Reagan, and will probably survive his presidency.

There are two main features of this policy:

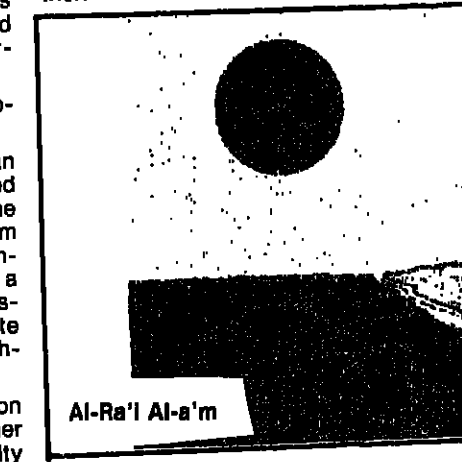
1. Iran holds the potential of being an essential and strategic ally of the United States in a very sensitive region of the world; its presence is necessary to stem both Arab nationalism and Soviet expansionism. And the US wishes Iran to remain a major Muslim non-enemy. If not friend, of Israel. The US will not completely alienate Iran despite the difficulties with its "mullah-racy."

Contacts and dealings between Iran on one hand and the US and Israel on the other continue at varying levels of responsibility.

and secrecy, and the US believes that a new, flourishing relationship can, and will be restored with Iran once the Islamic Revolution has run its course and exhausted its militancy. This is why Israel sold and continues to sell armaments to Iran, with the knowledge of the US, and was able to convince Washington with seemingly little difficulty to do likewise in the arms-for-contras dealings.

Israel is now critical of Washington's apparent siding with Iraq at this time. William Safire, a New York Times columnist known for his staunch support of Israel, wrote on 10 September, 1987: "At the National Security Council in the White House, the decision was made to support Arab Iraq against Persian Iran in the Gulf war — a strategy bitterly opposed by every visiting Israeli cabinet official."

Israel has every reason to support Iran in the Gulf war and to continue doing so thereafter. Iran under the Shah supplied Israel with oil, co-operated militarily and economically with the Jewish state and demonstrated that Islamic solidarity against Israel was a myth. An Iraqi victory in the war will pose a serious threat to Israel: that of a victorious military force that has gained extensive experience in modern warfare and defeated the major regional power in a war lasting longer than World Wars I and II together.



Al-Ra'i Al-a'im

Technology transfers in a blur

By Don Kerr
Special to The star

LONDON — TWO international companies, Toshiba of Japan, and Kongsberg of Norway, recently have had their commercial activities investigated by the United States government, and may find American penal sanctions following soon. Their offences are linked. Toshiba Machine Co., a subsidiary of the giant firm, sold high-technology metal-milling machinery to the USSR, and Kongsberg Væpnefabrik supplied the Soviets with the software for computer control of that machinery.

The transfers between 1981 and 1985 involved machinery of varying capability, culminating with a mine-head milling machine used to shape metal to complex profiles. When controlled by a computer, it can achieve those profiles with extreme accuracy.

American concern over the transfers stemmed from fears that the machinery could be used to shape high-efficiency propellers for Soviet nuclear-powered submarines. Honed to a high order, the propellers would not only drive submarines better, but also make them quieter in motion and difficult to locate.

A well-shaped propeller delays the onset of cavitation, the noise created when the bubbles of vapor in the water pass through a propeller. Bubbles form more easily in a turbulent flow over a poorly-finished propeller than in a smooth flow over an accurately-profiled one. The bubbles collapse as the flow streams away from the propeller, producing a high-frequency noise.

The noise can enable a rival military force to accurately measure the submarine's direction and fix its position, with a little help from small hydrophones aboard snubuoys laid on short base-lines by aircraft.

On the surface, the Toshiba-Kongsberg affair has the appearance of a typical technology transfer scandal with Toshiba the

prime offender and Kongsberg an accessory. But another interpretation of the facts seems timely. High-frequency sound is short-range sound. Anti-submarine techniques rely on such emissions to detect a target, even though the noise may not facilitate the long-range warning and long-term tracking essential to modern anti-submarine warfare (ASW) — particularly defence against a missile-carrying submarine.

ASW research over the past three decades has concentrated on the long-range, low-frequency noise radiated by submarines, mostly from the engines and power lines, mostly in the opposite transmission direction, designed to conceal and offensive submarine from ASW forces, has focused on reduction of this type of noise by insulation and flexible machinery mountings.

Why should the United States, therefore, react so strongly to the possibility of reduced high-frequency emissions by Soviet submarines when the subject does not even seem as important? For the answer, it's worth considering what would happen if the potential roles of the two companies in the transfer were reversed. Toshiba did sell state-of-the-art machinery which could enable the Soviet Union to copy techniques of the design and construction. Kongsberg, on the other hand, sold only software. So, whose 'offence' was worse?

While the importance of the machinery sale cannot be denied, the software transfer seems to have a greater potential. The software, for example, could enable the Soviet experts to learn long-term approaches to problem-solving.

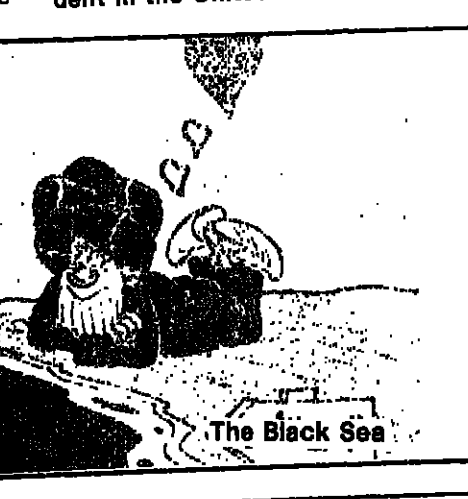
Although apparently meant for a limited range of machines, the software conceivably could be decoded and searched for programming strategies, which in turn could help the Soviet Union overcome weaknesses in the high-volume precision engineering. Taken in that light, the transfers there fore could be seen further to erode the US technical advantage in the military field, al-

though Iraq still has a score to settle with Israel: the bombardment by Israeli planes of its nuclear reactor in 1981, which was carried out to avert a perceived danger of an Iraqi atomic bomb and to reassure the Mullahs that Iran could still count on its old friend and ally, Israel.

Given the deep strategic alliance between Israel and the United States, and the inalienability of their joint long-term interests, combined with Israel's fears of Iraq in any future Arab-Israeli confrontation, the newly found warmth between Washington and Baghdad is apt to be short-lived unless Iraq decides to join the camp David Accords or relinquish its support for Palestinian nationalism. Both these possibilities appear unlikely. Washington knows that in any future Arab-Israeli war that includes Iraq, Iran will be its natural ally in supporting Israel.

2. The US seeks to preserve the conservative Arab government of the Gulf and elsewhere. The presence of a strong, belligerent Iran to their East and a strong, belligerent Israel to their West, as well as fears of internal unrest, serve only to deepen these governments' insecurity and, consequently, their dependence on US protection.

The writer is The Star's correspondent in the United Nations.



The Black Sea

View point

By Ya'coub Ahmad

A time bomb in Israel

THE ENDORSEMENT of the proposal to convene an international peace conference by the World Zionist Organization in New York last week could herald a new course of realistic thinking by Zionist leaders who seem to be increasingly alarmed by the rapid growth of the Arab population under Israeli occupation. In their stand in favour of the peace conference, they give additional weight to many in Israel who realize that continued occupation of the Arab territories may prove disastrous for the Jewish state in the not very distant future.

Indeed, if hard-line Israelis refuse to accede to peace because of their country's military superiority, it is time for them to consider the issue from the angle of a formidable growth of resentful Arab population which would eventually result in violence and racial strife.

Several studies conducted in Israel have indicated that by the year 2,000, the number of Arabs living in Israel and the Occupied Territories will equal the Jewish population. Many fear that under such conditions, Israel would become another South Africa.

One can easily imagine the enormity of the problem facing the Israeli governments when confronted with an increasingly frustrated Arab population who are denied national independence, and given no rights whatsoever under the yoke of occupation. The confrontation between an occupying nation and a defenceless people resorting out of despair, to every means of resistance would become so bloody and violent that it could turn Israel and the occupied areas into an inferno in which life might not be possible.

The Israelis should think of the fragility of their society which consists of different ethnic groups still yearning for the stable quiet living in their original countries. Palestinians will have no choice but to hold out to what is left of their lands and face the eventualities of the conflict. But there would be little temptation for an American or Soviet Jew to stay on, and face gloomy uncertain future.

Israel also cannot, for reasons of its own making, play the role of the white South African regime. Jews came to Palestine from all corners of the globe to escape persecution and the Western World assisted them partly to atone for past crimes. Seeing Israel turning into an oppressor practising Semi-Nazi and white South African measures may exceed what the Western nations can tolerate.

In addition, there have already been signs that despair is pushing the Arab population, especially the young generation, to the extreme. Knife-assaults against Israeli soldiers and settlers are becoming more common, giving a hint of the blood bath in which the area could plunge if occupation continues with no sign of a settlement in sight.

The Israelis who maintain that continued occupation is crucial to Israel's survival will ultimately find out that occupation itself carries the seeds of destruction.

This was years before any submarine with a Toshiba propeller could have been operational. Don Kerr is a military analyst with the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), London.

Vanunu affair: The full story

By Josephine Zananiri
Special to The Star

THE REVEREND John McKnight maintains that although Israeli Nuclear Technician Mordechai Vanunu is standing trial in Jerusalem, it is not his ordeal alone that the world is witnessing. "It is in fact the whole of that country which is on trial," comments the youthful minister.

The Anglican Community of Darlinghurst, an inner suburb of Sydney, befriended the Israeli technician shortly after he arrived in Australia. "He walked into our evening service says McKnight," after a long period of travel. He had spent some time in a Buddhist ashram and was clearly a young traveller in search of something. "None of the church group initially knew he possessed the roll of unprocessed film which was later to expose the closely guarded secrets of the Dimona Plant in the Negev.

"Vanunu," explains McKnight, "was a Moroccan Jew and several events in the occupied territories and the Arab world caused him to reassess the values of his adopted land." Working at the top secret Dimona Plant he witnessed the progress of Israeli nuclear technology. He started to question the role of nuclear arms in the war-torn Middle East, says McKnight and upon joining BarSheeba University he met young Palestinian students and "their discussions clearly influenced him," adds McKnight. "However the catalyst for him," states the minister, "was the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the subsequent massacres of Sabra and Shatila."

"He was photographed in a demonstration with fellow Palestinian students at the time and shortly after, he was advised to leave his job at the nuclear plant in Dimona. He left his homeland completely disillusioned with the prevalent ideology," says McKnight, dismissing that section of his friends life with a sweep of a very large hand. "Mordechai set out on a long journey, continues the minister, and in the bottom of his luggage lays the roll of unexposed film showing the long hidden secrets of the Dimona Plant.

Long explained by the Israelis as a water treatment facility, the top secret Dimona, originally established with the assistance of the French had remained a hidden asset to the already impressive Zionist arsenal of offensive weapons. No international body has been permitted to thoroughly inspect the installation. Vanunu told of visiting American scientists touring the plant, and how crucial entry points within the installation were actually bricked off during the tour.

Rev. McKnight believes that Vanunu was uncertain what to do with the film, although he had formulated a clear idea of his opposi-



The front-page pictures accompanying Vanunu's story in The Sunday Times

tion to the nuclear policy of his adopted land, its secrecy and its disastrous consequences within the framework of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Vanunu, who converted to Christianity, regularly attended the Anglican Church in Darlinghurst and came to meet two men employed in painting the rectory fence. "One, a Latin American, Oscar Guerrero, claimed to be a journalist but was later found to be a total fraud," says McKnight. "He had fabricated composite photographs of himself and several internationally known leftist leaders and claimed he had left his own country as a political refugee. Mordechai came to identify with him and believed they had similar backgrounds," says McKnight with a shrug of his massive shoulders.

Guerrero set out to sell the Vanunu story and photographs to several Australian newspapers, including the national daily 'The Australian', 'who were not interested,' adds McKnight. The London-based Sunday Times however took the opposite view and one of their people flew to Sydney for initial meetings with Vanunu.

At this point the young Israeli technician had his first encounter with probably Mossad agents. "At a hotel two men tried to engage him in a conversation on the Middle East. He left hurriedly," explains McKnight.

After initial discussions with the Sunday Times, the paper decided to fly Vanunu to London for further debriefing. On the way to the airport, Guerrero, "was shooting his mouth about how much money he would receive," says McKnight and later "one (as yet unidentified) person in the car reported the conversation to ASIO (the Australian Security Organization) believing the matter to be of interest to Australian security," says the young minister.

According to McKnight who kept in almost daily contact with Vanunu during his stay in London,

the Israeli technician was in good spirits for the early part of his debriefing. The Sunday Times however, kept postponing the date of publication of Mordechai's story as further experts were bought in to check the details and he became increasingly frustrated.

Throughout this period, the Sunday Times moved Vanunu under various names to different hotels in and around London. In an attempt to forestall Mossad kidnapping the young man. However a highly elaborate trap was already in motion. Spearheaded by a bulky figure posing as "Cindy the bleached blond manicurist from the American Mid-West. Vanunu who believed he had made the initial contact had in fact met the tip of an extraordinary plot by Mossad to entrap him and return him to Israel.

According to John McKnight, Vanunu's confidence was, "consistently sapped with each extended deadline on his story and he became highly agitated when Guerrero published a blotched version of the Dimona Story on the 29th of September 1986 in the rival Sunday Mirror. Included in the story was a photograph of Mordechai," McKnight, one of the last people to speak to the now highly agitated Vanunu was told by the young Israeli. "He was going out of London with Cindy," and in a final telephone discussion with the Sunday Times, Vanunu reiterated his plan to slip into the crowd.

His frightful journey back to Israel started in Rome. "Cindy," most reports indicate lured Vanunu to the eternal city on the pretext of finding a safe haven in an apartment ostensibly belonging to her sister.

However, he was immediately overpowered upon reaching the apartment, drugged, bound in heavy chains and taken to an Italian port and then shipped to Israel. Rev. McKnight distressed by

the break down in communications, flew to London to inform the British Police of the young Israeli's disappearance. During earlier phone conversation with the Sunday Times says McKnight they had showed a reluctance to place Vanunu's name on the missing persons list as technically, he had entered Britain on a false passport and was thus in effect not in the country.

McKnight found that his young friend had failed to re-establish contact with the Sunday Times, nor had he gone to any of the Anglican community recommended by the minister back in Sydney. Finding no trace of his co-religionist McKnight flew on to Israel where "he was met with a wall of silence." He could glean no information on the whereabouts of Vanunu and was met with responses such as, "We are unable to say anything," or "We cannot talk to you." Totally stonewalled and with his press conference cancelled by the Zionist government, McKnight returned to Australia.

Shortly after the authorities in Tel Aviv announced they were holding Vanunu in custody. "The treatment Mordechai received during his year-long incarceration has been horrendous," says McKnight. "He is in solitary confinement and lives in a cell of two by three metres. There are no windows and electric lights are used twenty four hours a day.

His cell is constantly monitored. His court appearances have become a travesty of justice. He is forbidden to reveal certain aspects of his case, particularly concerning his abduction in Rome and two men stand by to literally gag him should he attempt to speak out. He is transported from his maximum security prison in a covered van and forced to wear a crash helmet in order that he pass no further information to the press attempting to cover his trial.

But how did Mossad track and kidnap Vanunu? McKnight believes there are several possible sources. Initially they may have kept

loose tabs on Vanunu since his departure from his adopted homeland. Or the Australian newspapers contacted by Guerrero may have tipped off the Israeli Security Service. ASIO, the Australian Security Service officially denied that they informed Mossad although the unidentified person in the car taking Vanunu to Sydney airport certainly informed them. McKnight believes the ASIO denial but maintains that foreign agents with ASIO possibly from MIS or Mossad may have leaked the information to the Israelis, or suggests McKnight, someone within the Sunday Times passed word of the story to the Israeli embassy in Britain.

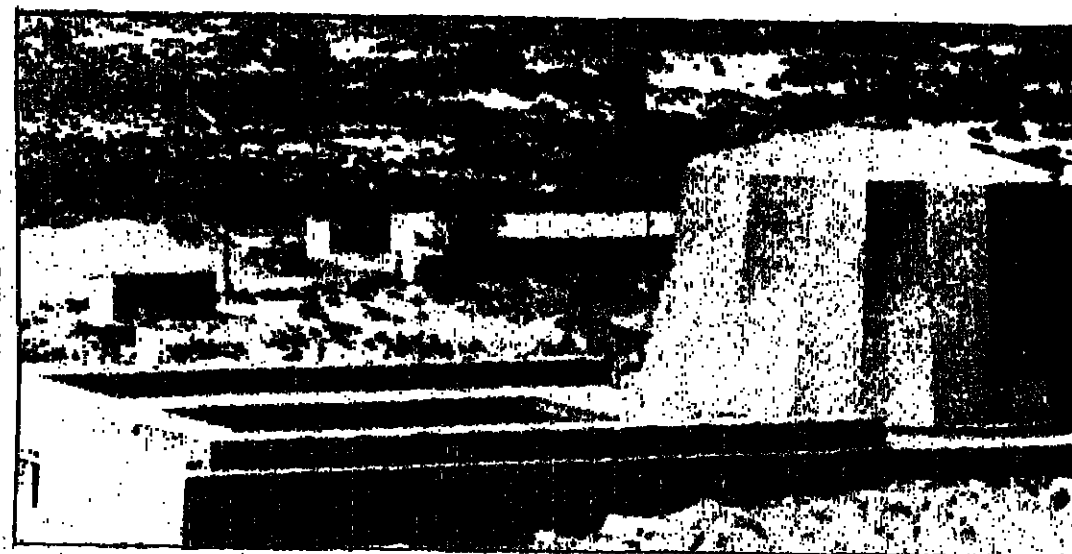
John McKnight has a weighty collection of letters from Vanunu written in prison, most of them are heavily censored with chunks cut out or words heavily scribbled over. Yet his crusade against the Israeli nuclear machine has not abated. He writes in one letter, "By my action I showed that the individual still has some power, the face of the almost unlimited force of the establishment. Such action is a mighty weapon in the hands of the individual. I had to overcome my personal barriers to do what I did. The chief barrier was the sacrifice of my private life to exposure and slander.

In the long term, John McKnight fears for Vanunu's life. "He may face execution for his beliefs," says the large cleric who drops his eyes to the ground for a few short seconds afterwards. "It is impossible," continues McKnight leaning back in his chair. "The Israelis try Nazi war criminals for obeying orders and now they are putting Vanunu on trial for obeying his conscience."

Although the Sunday Times was to pay a significant sum for his story, an amount which would enable Vanunu to create a new life, no funds have been received by the young technician who is now faced with thousands of dollars in costs for his legal defence. The Darlington Anglican Community has established a fund where donations can be sent 120 Darlington RD, Sydney N.S.W. Australia.

The Rev. McKnight expressed his dismay at the Sunday Times handling of Vanunu in London. "If only a friend had accompanied him from Darlington perhaps everything would have turned out differently." The minister believes that is of vital importance not to "lose sight of what Vanunu has sacrificed his freedom for. The US constantly threatens Pakistan for its attempts to develop atomic weapons. Even Australia has been listed as a potential developer of nuclear technology, but Israel never mentioned. What is the world community going to do about Dimona? questions the minister.

"Mordechai has sacrificed his freedom and possibly his life to bring to the attention of the entire world the realities of the Dimona Nuclear Plant. What will the world do now?"



Israel's nuclear plant at Dimona



Vanunu being prevented from talking to the press by an Israeli soldier

Mauritania amidst reforms, awaits the green signal

By Kuo Yuan
Special to The Star

FOR VISITORS returning after several years, the most striking change is the set of traffic lights running along Avenue Gamal Abdel Nasser, the capital's main thoroughfare. The traffic lights' arrival made practically a whole page of Ash Sheab, the national daily, though it was only representative of a wider change across this country of 1.4 million.

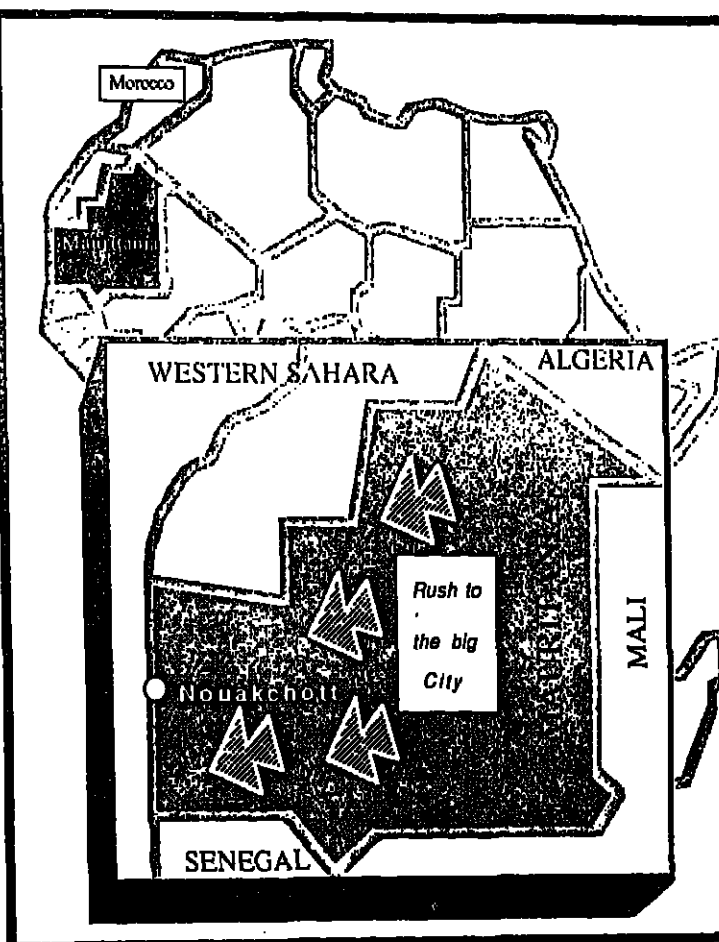
Luxurious new villas have sprouted up in the neighbourhood of the French Embassy, where most expatriates and wealthy Mauritians now converge. On the other side of Avenue Nasser, hidden behind the market and stores, however, are the slums housing the poor and the refugees from the drought in the vastness of the Sahel east of Nouakchott.

So intense has been the influx of the nomadic population into the urban areas along the Atlantic Coast that out of the country's 1.7 million, some 400,000 or one-fourth now crowd the capital. Demographers have predicted Mauritania's urban bulge will reach 1 million in 15 years.

This no doubt would be bad news for the government of President Maouya Sid Ahmed Ould Taya, already battling to keep peace with the population explosion and the pressure from the homeless.

Mauritania's comfortable growth after the independence from France on 28 November, 1960, slowed down in the seventies and virtually halted over the past few years. The drought aggravated economic stagnation, and the military political and economic events in the country and abroad capped it all.

The impoverishing effect of fighting off the Polisario guerrillas, now increasingly threatening to use Mauritania for staging attacks against Morocco, the decline of iron ore prices and squandering of foreign exchange on ill-conceived projects, all have combined to bring a financial crisis endemic since 1977.



The financial crunch quite literally squeezed out the post-independence regime of Moktar Ould Daddah, who for 18 years was the undisputed leader of the country. It also brought upon the country a shadow of instability that has been hard to dispel.

Political reforms no doubt have accompanied economic rationalization, but the effects of both are eagerly awaited. President Taya restored diplomatic relations with Morocco in 1985 while continuing

Israeli water theft

Continued from page 10

The Mayor has also sought to persuade the drilling company to abandon the scheme, and has received a letter from Gilman Hill, trustee of the Mt Moriah Trust, affirming that the company will not undertake the work if it will jeopardize Arab water resources. His son, Craig, who delivered the letter, commented "we will not enter into a project which would use water in an inequitable way. Our purpose in developing water in the West Bank is to see water used fairly, and distributed equitably to the people of the West Bank, both Jews and Arabs." He added that the firm would become involved only if Frelj was satisfied that the scheme would not harm Arab water supplies.

Palestinian suspicion of the project is understandable in view of Israel's water policies in the West Bank since the start of the occupation in 1967. The readily available, renewable water resources of the West Bank (mostly groundwater) total about 820 million cubic metres per year. Israel's response, meanwhile, which are

already fully utilized, total about 1.6 billion cubic metres per year. Of this total some 500 million cubic metres comes from wells which tap water flowing underground from beneath the West Bank. The Israelis are thus dependent on the West Bank for about one-third of their supplies — and were already taking 80 per cent of the West Bank's water even before they invaded the region.

The continued annual extraction by Israel of 500 million cubic metres of water flowing from the West Bank clearly depends on tight control over water development in the West Bank itself. This has been a key feature of the occupation. Whilst supplies to the newly implanted Israeli colonies in the region have been assured, the Palestinians have suffered.

No well can be sunk by a Palestinian without a permit from the Israeli authorities, and only a handful of permits have been granted. Moreover, the wells which have been allowed have been solely for domestic supplies. Arab farmers have been prohibited from drilling any new

wells for irrigation purposes. At the same time, the Israelis have refused to allow any increase in the pumping capacity of existing Arab wells. Permission for Palestinian municipalities to drill new wells has been made conditional on the wells also serving nearby Israeli colonies.

No such restrictions afflict water developments for Israel use. A series of deep wells, equipped with powerful pumps, have been sunk for the benefit of Israeli colonies. A United Nations study on the West Bank's water, published in 1980, reported that Jewish settlements in the occupied region were consuming 15-17 million cubic metres of water annually, and that the figure would rise to an eventual 62 million cubic metres per year when the settlements achieved their irrigation targets.

The US study commented: "8,000 Jewish settlers in the West Bank, excluding the Jerusalem area, constitute one per cent of the population of the area but consume some 15 per cent of the local water."

The new Israeli wells have had a "devastating effect" on neigh-

bouring Arab springs and wells, said the UN report. A number of Arab wells have dried up, and many others are suffering declining water levels and increasing salinity. The consequences have been catastrophic for the Palestinian farmers, for whom irrigation is vital. For example, residents of the village of Awja, in the Jordan Valley, say that the depletion of their water supplies has meant the loss of over 145 hectares of land planted with bananas and citrus fruits. Nearby villages, such as Bardale, Ain al Balda and Kardala are faced with similar problems.

It is, perhaps, no wonder that the new Israeli water pumping scheme has caused such a furor. Whether or not it will go ahead is still uncertain. But it seems unlikely that Israel will pay too much attention to the Palestinian protests. The Israeli inner cabinet has authorized the West Bank Civil Administration to continue with the scheme, and reports suggest that negotiations are currently under way with a Canadian firm who are interested in undertaking the drilling work.

Alan George is a freelance reporter on Middle East affairs.

comparing with 20,000 in 1984, but Mauritania still imports two-thirds of its food. The advancing desert has reduced prospects for a long-term self-sufficiency in food, however. Desert now covers 75 per cent of the country and is estimated to be advancing by four to five miles a year. The drought, which practically has continued off and on since 1972, has reduced livestock by a third.

Investments in the mining sector have responded to falling production and depressed prices. Debts resulting from previous investments in the mining industry led to a major buildup of foreign loans, the servicing of which exceeded 35 per cent of the export earnings in 1984. Long and medium-term public debts, estimated to total \$1.8 billion, account for some 250 per cent of the GNP, estimated by the World Bank to be no more than \$420 per capita. Mauritania's indebtedness is five times the average of developing countries with the same income level.

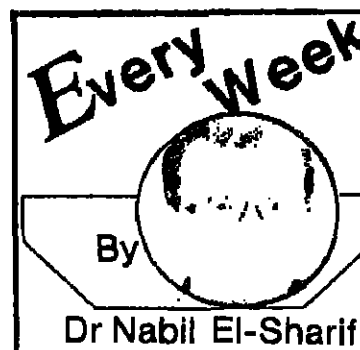
Corrective measures by President Taya's government, particularly those in response to the World Bank proposals, have centred on the reform of the food sector, and promotion of "Food for Work" programmes. Other reforms cut across the banking, energy, fisheries, iron ore mining and business sectors.

An economic and financial recovery programme for 1985-88 aims at achieving an economic growth at a higher rate than the population increase. It is also designed to improve productivity from investments and reduce the balance of payments deficit to less than 10 per cent of the GDP. Mauritania's gross international reserves already are up, from \$3 million in 1970 to \$82 million in 1985.

But the recovery programme is punctuated by many ifs and buts, a great many of them positioned by internal and external political developments, the future direction of Polisario vis a vis both Mauritania and Morocco and the attitude of the international community.

Many of the country's development sectors, it seems, are fixed on the amber signal. These obviously need the green sign to go on, or red to stop and start all over again.

Improved rains helped raise the cereals output to 95,000 in 1986.



Fishing in troubled waters

NO ONE denies it must be extremely difficult for the American University of Beirut to continue functioning, when everything around it Lebanon is crumbling down. AUB's lot is part and parcel of Lebanon's lot, and the suffering and anguish of the AUB staff and administration are grave reflections of the suffering and anguish shared by all people in Lebanon.

But Israel, which is always ready to fish in troubled waters, and to capitalize and even cash in on other people's misery was ready to jump on the recent dilemma of the AUB to bolster its own image and serve its own interests, paying no attention whatsoever to the gravity and seriousness of the problems facing both Lebanon and the AUB.

Israel's recent suggestion to have the AUB transferred to Tel Aviv instead of Beirut cannot be interpreted as a gesture of goodwill on Israel's part, and cannot be viewed as an act that expresses Israel's concern for the AUB, or for its message of advancing academic diversity in the region.

If Israel was so concerned about preserving academic freedom, why does it continue to harass and stifle Arab academic institutions in the West Bank and Gaza? And if Israel is so much interested in acting as a guardian of cultural exchange in this part of the world, why does it not refrain from shooting Arab students in their campuses? And why doesn't Israel stop interfering in Arab curricula by imposing its own interpretation of history and culture on the Arab civilian population under its occupation?

Israel is coating its real motives by citing its false concern for cultural exchange and academic freedom, when — in reality — it is only interested in contributing to its continuous smear campaign against the Arab image. The Arab world is going to be viewed as a lawless land of danger and insecurity. If the AUB accepts the cynical Zionist offer of moving its campuses to Tel Aviv.

But the most negative and damaging image that Israel hopes to nurture out of its cynical offer is to portray the Arab world as a land of intolerance, where internationally acclaimed institutions cannot function freely.

This may be true in Lebanon right now for circumstances that Israel itself helped to bring about, but this is not the norm for either Lebanon or for the rest of the Arab world.

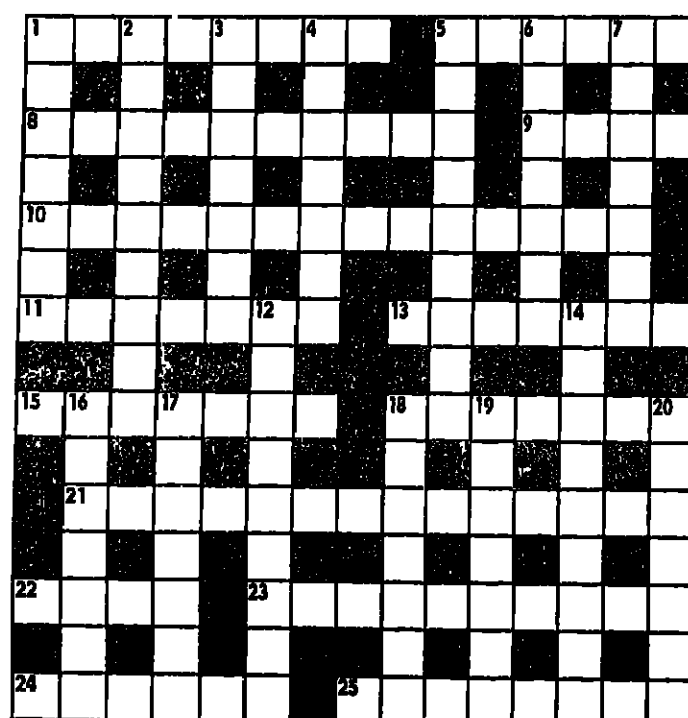
Cross words

ACROSS

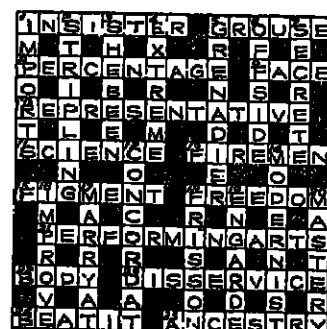
- 1 Demanding type at home with nurse (8).
- 5 Reef high on the menu, perhaps (6).
- 6 Centre page spread showing profit (10).
- 9 Brave fiancée's odd constituents (4).
- 10 Typical traveller (14).
- 11 Since Reformation, church's branch of knowledge (7).
- 13 Order to soldiers to shoot brigade members (7).
- 15 Fancy fruit imported, we hear (7).
- 18 Licence specially granted by city sometimes (7).
- 21 Ivy climbing star, transformed built etc (10,4).
- 22 (Quality of wine, not spirit) (4).
- 23 Little girl's first shot hurt (10).
- 24 Go away, it appears, after defeat (4,2).
- 25 Descent for those in tree (8).

DOWN

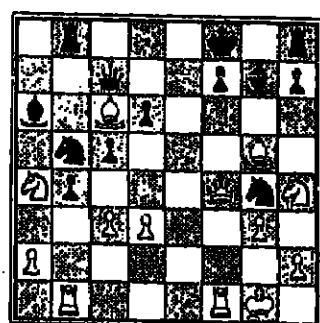
- 1 One writing about wine buys from abroad (7).
- 2 Youth leader in school adding twice as much (9).
- 3 Poles holding male social gathering in pub (7).
- 4 Taken out of context, remedy is Draconian (7).
- 5 Old bomber in raid Green organized (9).
- 6 Committing offence, having gone overboard? (7).
- 7 Hide in quarters on island (7).
- 12 Agreement doctor can change (9).
- 14 Admirer of new navy one found in humble surroundings (9).
- 16 Naughty child's taken over - changed for better (7).
- 17 Easy author (7).
- 18 Thrill for loving and giving boy? (7).
- 19 Call for defence to foil attack (2,5).
- 20 Plant in my control (7).



Solution



CHESSE

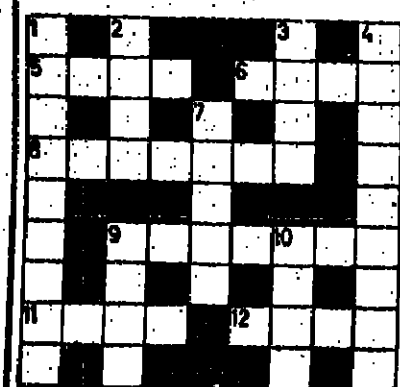


S. Berry v D Goodman, UK team championship, Highbury 1965. A confused position, with pieces and pawns on both sides under attack. White (to move) found a way through the melee and forced a surprise victory over his international master opponent. How did the game finish?

Chess solution

1 QxK1, 2 xB, 3 Rxf6, 4 Rf8, 5 KxR, 6 Rf8, 7 Kf7, 8 Kf8, 9 Kf7, 10 Kf8, 11 Kf7, 12 Kf8, 13 Kf7, 14 Kf8, 15 Kf7, 16 Kf8, 17 Kf7, 18 Kf8, 19 Kf7, 20 Kf8, 21 Kf7, 22 Kf8, 23 Kf7, 24 Kf8, 25 Kf7.

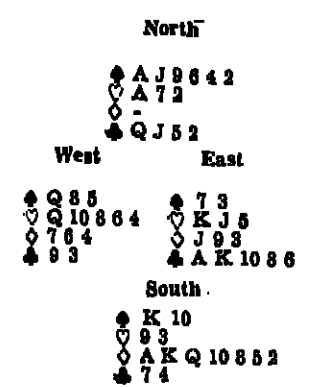
JUNIOR X-WORD



CLUES ACROSS: 1. Quantity measure of weight, 2. Service drink, 3. In, 4. Change direction, 5. To, 6. Ready to be respected, 7. Change direction, 8. To, 9. Change direction, 10. To, 11. Change direction, 12. To. DOWN: 1. Combining, 2. Combining, 3. Combining, 4. Combining, 5. Combining, 6. Combining, 7. Combining, 8. Combining, 9. Combining, 10. Combining, 11. Combining, 12. Combining.

solution

BRIDGE



Dealer North. N-S vulnerable. According to the dictates of the Rules and Ethics Committee, psychic bids, while not prohibited, must be noted and reported. The idea being that this will discourage any pair that may seem to have a special understanding. I dare say the recommendation is mostly ignored, as indeed it should be. Psychic bids can lead to amusing situations, and there should be no suspicion of private understandings until there is positive evidence. The deal above occurred in the final of a mixed team event in France. The bidding went:

South West North East
1 - 1S No 4C No
2C No 4C No
3NT No 6C No
4 No No 4C No
5 No No 4C No

West, understandably, was not sure what was happening. He led a heart and South, after some anxious moments, recorded thirteen tricks for a score of 1890. Oddly enough, a club lead would have produced a tie, because at the other table North-South, after an extraordinary understanding, played in Four Clubs, two down.

JEANE DIXON'S Your Horoscope

ARIES — 21 March-19 April

An unusual opportunity comes your way; run with it! Know your own mind and communicate your desires in a positive, meaningful way. Others will co-operate. Teamwork enjoys highly favourable influences. A short trip could be the start of a fun weekend. Complete your plans for a winter vacation; you will need to make reservations well in advance. The emphasis is on fostering domestic harmony.

TAURUS — 20 April-20 May

Keep your eyes on what is happening close at hand. Do not dwell on the imponderable. Practically will pay handsome dividends. An influential person does you a tremendous favour. Respect it with loyalty. Stick close to home this week. Community events are apt to be disappointing. An unexpected change of plan could brighten your week. Show discretion in social situations. Avoid bringing up controversial topics.

GEMINI — 21 May-20 June

A talk with a banker or real estate expert gives you a good idea. Do your homework before making an offer. A chance meeting could turn into something memorable. Avoid a romantic triangle. A good week to look for shopping bargains. Patience is needed when dealing with a young person's problems. Become a better listener. Your offspring need you as a sounding board. Show more affection.

CANCER — 21 June-22 July

Behind-the-scenes events can have a profound effect on your future. The outlook is good for developing a new partnership. Teamwork will produce larger profits. Romance will have its ups and downs. A real estate development shows real financial promise. Shopping with a companion could prove tiresome. Try to spend some time alone. A period of meditation proves rejuvenating. Contact friends far away.

LEO — 23 July-22 August

A job situation that looked promising begins to pay dividends. The need to work overtime could throw cold water on your plans. Let mate or date know as soon as possible. Stick to your diet and exercise resolutions. New employment leads come from friends you talk to at a party. Group gatherings have more appeal than one-on-one encounters. Steer clear of gossip.

VIRGO — 23 August-22 September

A great week for efforts to improve your family's financial security. Talk with a banker or lawyer. Someone in a position of power offers you preferment. Stay alert. You shine at social functions. Weekend social events should enhance an important relationship. Do not use love as a weapon when you and mate have a disagreement. Show a willingness to compromise. Romance thrives on consideration.

LIBRA — 23 September-22 October

Comparison shopping will help you stretch your dollars. Raffles and contests enjoy favourable influences. Your sensitivity to an older person's problems increases. Be more affectionate. The emphasis this week is on personal relationships. You may have to answer some demanding questions. Be honest if you are not ready to make a permanent commitment. For some, a dream comes true.

SCORPIO — 23 October-21 November

Dealings with key people are apt to be sensitive. Romance and travel prove rewarding. Things that are foreign seem to stimulate you. Get agreements in writing even when doing business with friends. The day is full of minor domestic or financial pitfalls. Watch your step! An important decision involving a loved one will have far-reaching effects. Stubbornness will only make a difficult situation worse.

SAGITTARIUS — 22 November-21 December

Your leadership abilities are put to the supreme test. Tolerance and patience are your best allies. Collaborative efforts prove financially rewarding. Commit to a long-term partnership. You will find greater success and happiness when you make long overdue changes. Seek family members' co-operation. Expert financial advice will increase your resources. Stay at home tonight. Loved one needs more of your attention.

CAPRICORN — 22 December-19 January

You can circumvent a roadblock and forge ahead with your personal plans. A professional project receives the backing you wanted. Someone close to you may try to pull a fast one. Stay alert. Better communication is the key to more fulfilling family relationships. Sharing your long-range plans will strengthen ties. Look into remodeling before selling your home. You might decide to stay put.

AQUARIUS — 20 January-18 February

Career progress depends on displaying your talents to best advantage. Co-workers offer their support. A married couple discovers new depth to their relationship. Forget old grievances; plan for the future. You get a chance with someone who has overlooked you in the past. A lucky surprise gives you a reason for a family celebration. Invite neighbours and close friends to join the fun.

PISCES — 19 February-20 March

A hard-sell approach proves most effective now. Push harder to increase profits. A business trip should not be postponed. Combine work with pleasure by taking along your mate. Romance sizzles. Do not get so involved in community activities that you neglect the folks at home. Joint resources could be the subject of a discussion with mate.

Star

Telephone: 664 153/4,
Telex: 21392 MEDIA JO

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 16th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. (closed Tuesdays). Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Crater Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.) Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century oriental artists. Miniatz, J. al-Luwaddeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

Martyr's Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m.-4.00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 624240.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): 1324 Amman. Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabal Luwadih. Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Hussein. Tel. 661757.

Terrapina Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Luwadih, mess in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5.30 p.m. Tel. 822365.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox): Abdali. Tel. 623841.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer): Jabal Amman. Tel. 626383.

Armenian Catholic Church: Ashrafieh, Tel. 771531.

Armenian Orthodox Church: Ashrafieh, Tel. 776261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox): Ashrafieh, Tel. 771761.

Armenian International Church: International meetings at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. Tel. 67334.

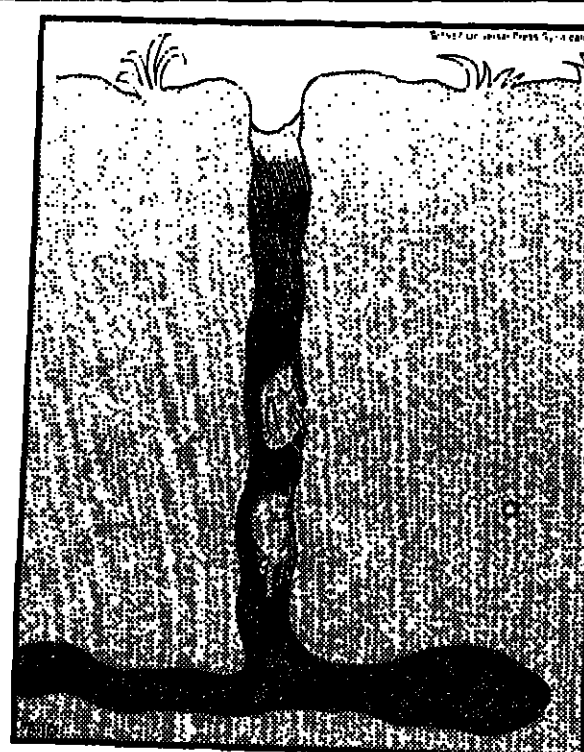
Evangelical Lutheran Church: Jabal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 611288.

DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS

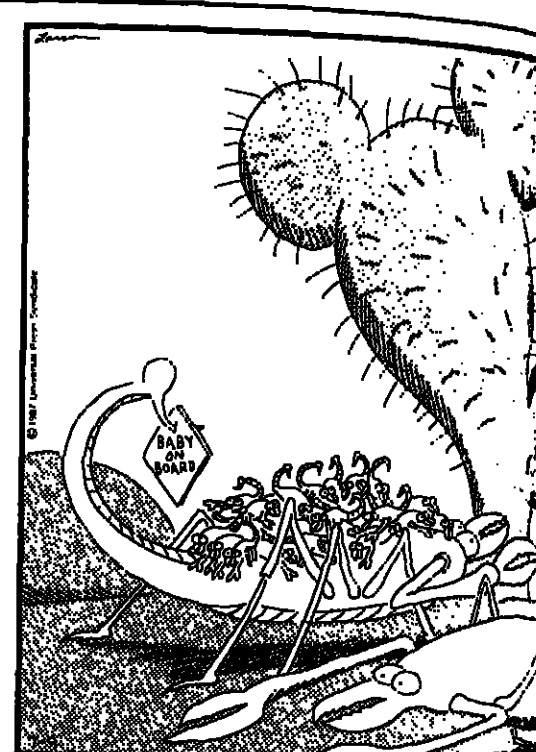
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Australia 673246/7
Austria 644635
Austrian Embassy / commercial section 674750/674852
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Viking campfires



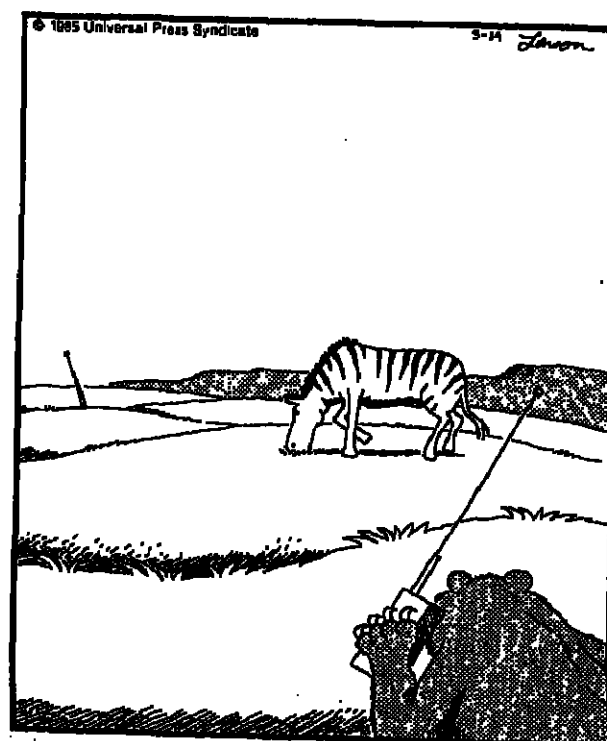
"Arnold, you fool! Don't look up!"



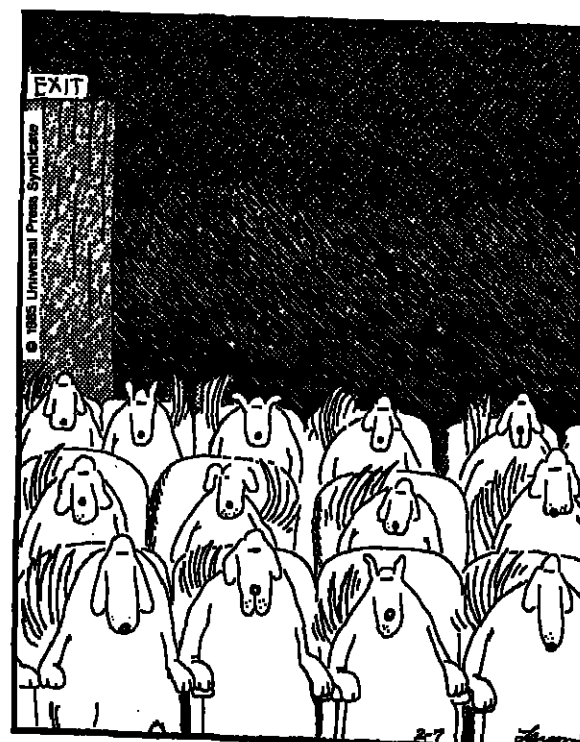
"Drive, George, drive! This one's got a coathanger!"

THE FAR SIDE

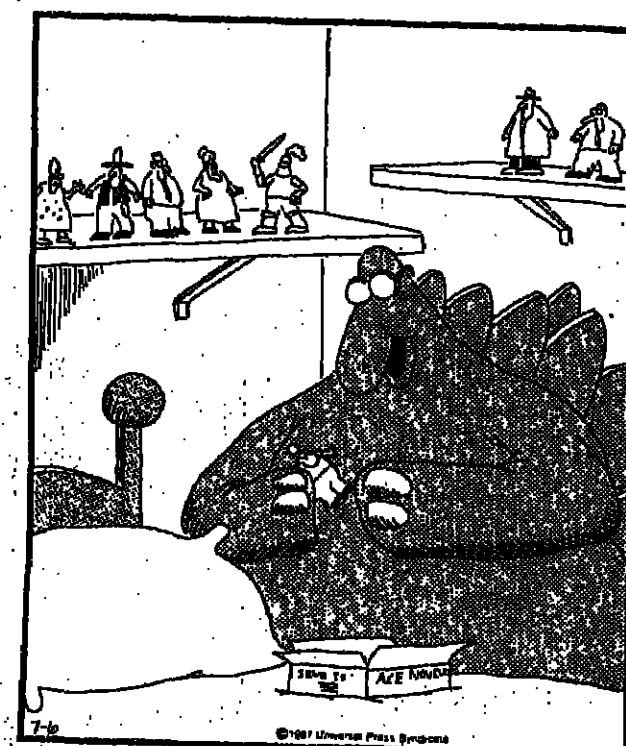
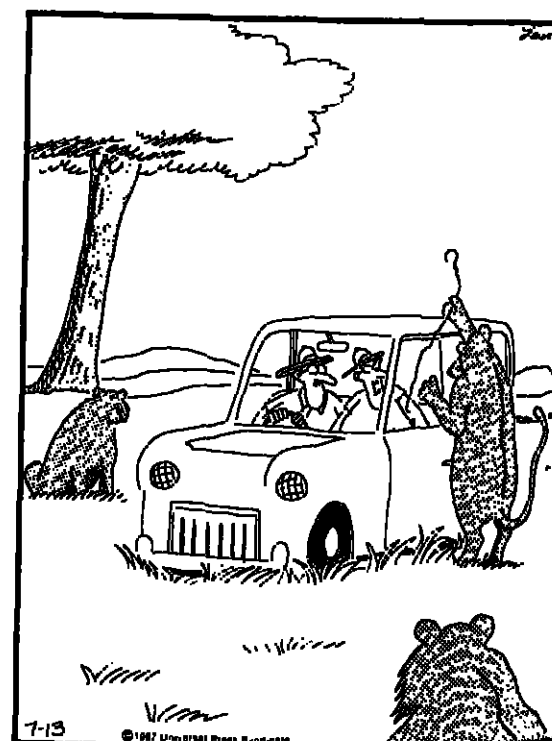
By GARY LARSON



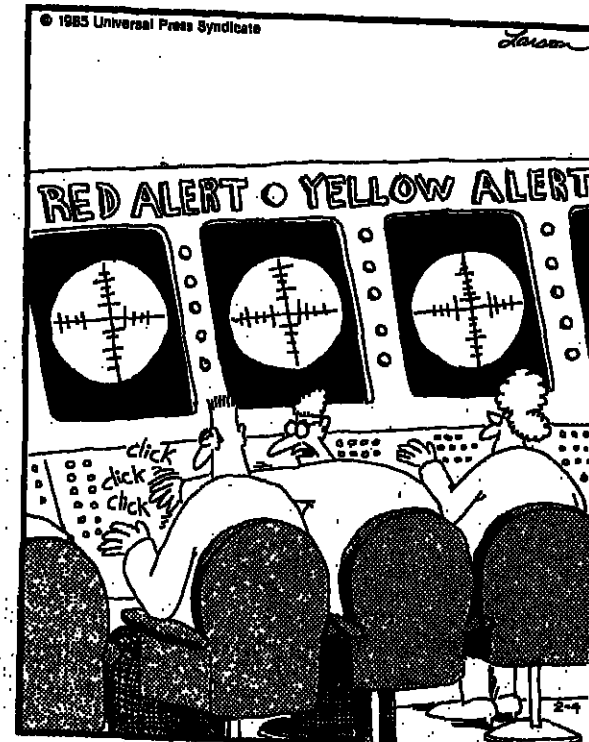
The modern lion



At the Dog Comedy Film Festival



"Oh, boy! The 'Nerd'... Now my collection's complete!"



"OK, Baxter, if that's your game, I'll just reach over and push a few of your buttons."



"Just think... Here we are, the afternoon sun beaming down on us, a dead, bloated rhino underfoot, and good friends flying in from all over... I tell you, Frank, this is the best of times."

French Programmes

Saturday
 * 06:00 JTV presents "Le Faiseur Des Morts". This is a 5 part drama series adapted from the novel by Guy Des Cars, a famous thriller-detective French writer.

JTV will also present on Saturday, another drama series called "La Mafia". A 6 part drama series on a detective investigating the Mafia activity on the island of Sicily.

* 07:00 News In French.

* 07:15 The 10th International Circus show in Paris. Starting Nov., and at this time, we will present the variety programme "Un Deb De Plus". Each programme focuses on international names of music and entertainment.

Sunday

* 05:00 The Quiz Show "Des Chiffres Et Des Lettres", "Letters and Numbers".

* 06:00 The Soap Opera "Rue Carnot".

* 06:30 "L'Ecole des Fans".

* 07:00 News In French.

* 07:15 A variety of songs and music.

Monday

* 08:00 JTV presents a 10 part documentary series about nature, "Histoires Naturelles". This programme focuses on the world's natural life and talks to specialists each according to his field.

At the end of this documentary series, we will present "L'Agonie de L'Alge". A 3 part documentary series on the life of Napoleon Bonaparte.

* 07:00 News In French.

* 07:15 The Weekly Sports Magazine.

Tuesday

* 08:00 "Richelleu": A historical 8 part drama series on the life of French politician Richelleu. "Hotel De Police" will replace Richelleu, and this is a 8 hour police series.

* 07:00 News In French.

* 07:15 The 10th International Circus show in Paris.

Starting Nov., and at this time, we will present The Variety Programme "Un Deb De Plus". Each programme focuses on international names of music and entertainment.

Wednesday

* 05:15 "Champs Elyses". A variety programme



Your TV guide

Channel 2
 From
 3 - 9 October



The Mini — Series on Saturday & Sunday at 10:20

hosted by Michel Drucker and focuses on the latest in Arts, Music, and Entertainment.

* 07:00 News In French.

* 07:00 "Aujourd'hui En Jordanie". A local magazine produced and presented by Saleh Madl. This magazine focuses on different subjects in Jordan: Economy, Social, Politics.

Thursday

* 05:30 "Les Reves De Jeannot". "Johnny's Dreams": is a new cartoon series of 26 parts. Johnny, a nice little boy who is always dreaming because he still believes in fairy-tales, has a great passion: To read plenty of imaginary narrations written by distinguished fabulists.

* 08:00 Rare and strange plants are presented on the 13 part documentary series "L'Avanture des Plantes".

* 06:30 The Soap Opera "Rue Carnot".

* 07:00 News In French.

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 P.O. Box 270, Dhahran Airport 31932
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Thursday

* 08:30 Life's Most Embarrassing Moments. "Life's Most Embarrassing Moments" is a hilarious series of one hour specials which highlight those incidents that have occurred to all of us — the ones that make us turn red and cover our faces. Well known sports figures, politicians, and actors who display what happens to them when they were caught in an inadvertent slip. The first fun-filled hour is hosted by comedian John Ritter, the subsequent nine hours are hosted by the legendary Steve Allen, and each installment of Life's Most Embarrassing Moments is guaranteed to keep the entire family laughing!

* 09:30 New Series. "Indelible Evidence": In this compelling new series, the well-known writer and television personality Ludovic Kennedy presents six thrilling murder mysteries, where the police were completely baffled and had to turn for help to the forensic scientist. Each programme is a dramatic reconstruction of a true criminal investigation which took place within the last 15 years. The professional people taking part (scientists, police officers, etc) are those who actually conducted the investigations. The participants in the drama, however, are played by actors, and names and settings have been changed.

* 10:20 Feature Film.

Friday

* 08:30 New Comedy series. "Late Expectations": Nanette Newman and Keith Barron star in this stylish new comedy by John Gleeson as a middle aged couple planning to travel the world when their son leaves home, only to have their hopes shattered, when they discover they are yet again to become parents.

* 09:10 Against The Wind.

* 10:20 New Series Supertrain: Supertrain flashes delightful, fun-filled entertainment. An atomic powered train rockets across the US at 200 miles per hour on a precision schedule between New York and Los Angeles. Each trip is spiced with a mixture of drama, light comedy and mind-boggling scenes on how futuristic train travel might be. The Supertrain is jammed with all the luxuries imaginable: pool, disco, boutiques, restaurants, gymnasium, steam room, library... you name it Supertrain's got it. And each episode flags these super-luxuries lacing them into the fast-moving action. The result...zesty and thoroughly enjoyable entertainment. The Supertrain episodes touch all bases. There are kidnappers...jewel thieves...hijackers...government agents...gorgeous gals...even the mob's on board. But there's more. Supertrain brings big-name stars into almost every episode.

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